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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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"We are driven back, for our next tray
A newer strength to borrow,
And where the vanguard camps to-day,
The rear shall rest to-morrow."

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 494).

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Notes and Comments.

Votes for Women in 1914.

Mr. Asquith says it is necessary to have an early winter session. He has recently spoken of "facing boldly" the burning question of the enfranchisement of women. Let the Government, then, face it boldly and introduce a Government measure this year. Sir Edward Carson, at Drumleg, put the case very well (he was thinking chiefly of the million men of Ulster. We think of thirteen million women). He quoted Mr. Chamberlain, "Well, it is a great crisis, and I tell you someone has to give way. Why should it be us?" That is the question, Why should it be us? We have not behind us the rifles of Ulster, the good ship "Fanny," the British army, as Sir Edward claims to have, but we have something greater than any of these things are in themselves, we have—no less than Ulster—a just cause and an invincible determination to continue to the end. We take to heart Sir Edward's counsel :—

"Do not think lightly of 'No surrender,' and do not imagine that you can carry out a policy of 'No surrender' by merely going to meetings. Do not imagine you must not suffer. If you are really prepared, as I know you are, for a policy of 'No surrender,' you must make further sacrifices; and it is because I believe from the start that you are prepared to make those sacrifices that I have never hesitated in saying that there is no power on earth that can prevent us from having a victory."

When law-abiding Suffragists nail that flag to their mast, "No surrender," they do it calmly and deliberately, with a full knowledge of what it means, but they should not, and they do not, hesitate.

Sir Edward's appeal is, frankly and boldly, to the power of the sword; ours, as frankly and boldly, to a power greater than the sword.

He appeals frankly and boldly to what some would call "a want of sense of proportion," an unbalanced judgment, an incapacity to be imperially minded, for his words are: "We care nothing on earth about politics, excepting so far as politics will preserve to us our position. . . ."

We also—we believe that such a call has come to the women of this generation, that they too must put the cause first, not for what it will bring of individual benefit, but for womanhood and for the race. The conclusion of the whole matter lies in Sir Edward's closing words :—

"Your heart and my heart throb in unison in the same cause and with the same faith and belief in eternal justice. It is in that spirit we will enter upon the conflict, it is in that spirit we will go through the conflict, and it is in that spirit we will win, because God will defend the right."

Mr. Channing Arnold to be Penalised no More.

The announcement was made in the Commons on Tuesday by the Under-Secretary for India that Captain Finnie has applied for leave to withdraw the action in his name pending against Mr. Channing Arnold, as he "considers his character to be vindicated by the criminal conviction." This announcement will be received with satisfaction by those of the justice-loving public who hold that for further punishment to be meted out to Mr. Arnold would be to go dangerously far in the direction of allowing the law to become an instrument of persecution of an honest man. Mr. Arnold, as becomes an honourable man, has himself consistently declared his desire to face the Rangoon Court and there to prove his case, but Mr. Alec Wilson, who has put up so chivalrous a fight on his behalf, has stated in THE COMMON CAUSE and elsewhere that he would regard such a result of the agitation on Mr. Arnold's behalf as is announced above, to be in effect a moral victory for Mr. Arnold. THE COMMON CAUSE has at no time maintained Mr. Arnold to be wholly guiltless of any indiscretion—few of the world's reformers have been—but we have held that, but for the pressure of legal technicalities—their undue pressure, as we firmly believe is shown by the evidence—Mr. Arnold could have triumphantly proved his exercise of all due care in the bringing of his charges. For the rest—what indeed still remains as our responsibility—the safety of little children under our flag is by no means so assured that Britain can afford to crush and ruin any honest man who stands up for them. We hold, therefore, that though the sequel is not such as to set our uneasiness at rest, it is such as to bring some legitimate renewal of hope to those who, like Mr. Arnold, are the enemies of all who offend against these little ones.

Lady Hardinge.

The Bombay correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* writes: "Sorrow at the death of Lady Hardinge found expression here to-day in the most remarkable outburst of feeling that can be remembered since the death of King Edward. The native papers appeared to-day mourning the death of a heroine which would be a national loss."

That Lady Hardinge was a woman worthy of the best tradition of British women in public life is shown by a private account she herself gave, and which is quoted by *The Westminster Gazette*, of the Delhi bomb outrage :—

"When we restarted there were voices raised, and I heard 'Bravos!'":

"'I then began noticing more details; for instance, that the howdah back had gone and that the Viceroy looked pale. I said to him, 'Are you sure you are not hurt?' He answered, 'I am not sure. I have had a great shock, but I think I can go on.' A few seconds afterwards I stretched backward, to be able to see him from the back and through a slit of the uniform near his right shoulder I could see red flesh appearing. Then I thought, 'Shall I tell him he is wounded, which will frighten him, or take the risk of the harm the jolt of the elephant may do him.'"

"The letter then related how Lady Hardinge looked round and noticing the dead 'jemadar,' quietly informed the Viceroy."

A few weeks ago we rendered homage to the humble French heroine, Madame Poulain—this week, we offer it to our countrywoman. Whatever opinions Lady Hardinge may have held in regard to the position of her sex in the State, her own noble example has shown that women can rise to be worthy of the highest. And India has seen it.

The Church of England Leads the Way.

This issue of THE COMMON CAUSE is honoured with an article by that distinguished and learned champion of just causes, Dr. Dearmer, on the great event of the week, the granting of equal franchise rights to Churchwomen. Our readers will learn with deep rejoicing the opinion of the writer of the article that the "epoch-making" speech delivered at the Church Congress last year by Miss A. Maude Royden is in part responsible for this great gain. Miss Royden's much-needed holiday does not end until the autumn, but we have reason to believe she keeps in touch with current events in the woman's movement, and we hope that this news will bring her new health and inspiration.

Lynch Law with a Difference.

From Andover come echoes of certain incidents which raise some important issues. Suffragists are used to the incitements to violence against themselves which have disgraced a portion of the press and several courts of law. We have consistently maintained that, grievously as those guilty of acts of arson deserve punishment, it is not well thus to encourage the mob in the opinion that it is competent to take the infliction of such punishment into its own hands, and indeed, no hatred of violence or of wrong-doing has actuated those hooligans who so frequently avail themselves of the tacit permissions referred to.

At Andover something akin in principle to the practice of lynch law has recently occurred, but with a difference.

According to reports which have reached us it appears that a young man A, wronged a girl of the place B, and on an affiliation order being brought against him he escaped the penalty of the law upon a technical point. The girl and her mother, incensed by the verdict, threw flour over him and were imprisoned for assault. On their release a crowd of 2,000 of their fellow-townsmen met them at the station, marched with them through the town, breaking windows as they went and destroyed nearly everything in the shop of A's father. So strongly was public sympathy on their side that at least one tradesman whose windows had been broken, refused to prosecute, and the vicar, who had suffered in a like manner, wrote to the press to express his sympathy with the girl. It is noteworthy that before the case the young man had been quite popular.

Such, we believe, are the facts. The people of Andover seem to have been possessed of a strong consciousness of the injustices of the letter of the law. We cannot commend their manner of giving expression to this consciousness, but we feel that such a story as this must give pause to those who prate sanctimoniously about "rising public indignation" to provide an excuse for roughs being given license to behave "as is their nature to." A crowd of angry and excited persons may commit acts of violence against women or they may commit them on their behalf. In neither case do we desire to see acts of violence committed, but we do desire to see public opinion so enlightened that legislation and administration alike shall cease from being in any degree a mockery of justice.

Our International Guests and the Press.

Those whose business or pleasure it is to read much in the daily and weekly press must have been greatly gratified at the cordial recognition accorded by the more reputable journals to

our international guests. Biographical notes, reasoned articles on the growth of the International Alliance, personal interviews have appeared in great abundance, and nearly always supplying really valuable news. Such appreciation of the significance of the world-wide movement is a most hopeful sign of the times.

We Say "Girl Guides."

We confess to a certain feeling of amazement at the terms of Sir Robert Baden Powell's "Appeal to Women" on behalf of his Boy Scouts. He tells us that money is coming in at the rate of £700 a day, that he has now got nearly £100,000, and that men have contributed most of this. He then goes on to suggest that women will not care "to be behind," and proposes that they also should give £100,000 (to entice the men to give £50,000 more). We should have supposed that women could hardly be accused of backwardness in the Boy Scout movement—they have always helped it (even in some cases as Scoutmasters when the males in a place have not cared to "fash themselves"), they have also been loud in the chorus of universal flattery which has been the happy (and quite possibly the just) lot of these boys. But at a modest computation men have, shall we say, ten times more money at their disposal than women. Boys' education is already richly endowed, sometimes at the expense of girls': professional women—teachers, nurses—lacking the ample tradition of men—are often over-worked, under-paid, badly housed.

We say, therefore, "Girl Guides." Let Sir Robert, whose public services we cordially recognise, continue to scoop in from men his £700 a day, and let our readers give—if they have a surplus after all the Woman Suffrage movement calls for—to the Baden-Powell Girl Guides, whose Patroness is Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, whose President is Miss Agnes Baden Powell, and whose address is 116, Victoria Street, S.W. We believe that these Girl Guides, though not the pets of the press like their brothers, are delightful creatures, and seem to know all about "stalking" and "spooring" and cooking and nursing, and care of children, and sea-faring, and chivalry, and courage, and endurance. Indeed, they ought to have £100,000 at once.

Two little words in conclusion. Firstly, we fear Sir Robert, true to boy nature, is not fond of "summing," so we will not be unduly hard on him for saying that if every woman in 233 gives £1, the result will be £100,000! But still, the Anti-suffragists have told us, and we partly believe it, that there are thirteen million women in Great Britain. Perhaps, however, "women and children" are all as one to the gallant general.

Secondly, the Boys' organisations who refused to co-operate with the girls on Empire Day did not include the Scouts, who were not present on that occasion. Our leader on the subject on May 22nd expressly refrains from implicating the Scouts in this disgraceful episode.

The Lady at the Round Table.

Last Sunday, the yellow placards of *The Referee* bore the legend "Is a Mother a Parent?" Now "Enid"—The Lady of the Round Table—of that paper, writes a column each week which is always entertaining and often instructive, and which goes far towards making *The Referee* distinctly more readable than our solemn contemporary, *The Observer*. All this being so, it gave us real pleasure as we glanced through the column with a view to finding out about the mother, to see also such familiar words as "Friend of Woman Suffrage Card," and "Red, white, and green banners of the law-abiding Suffragists in Hyde Park." It augurs well for the friendly understanding the Suffragists are establishing with the public to see a few lines of this kind in a journal so undidactic as *The Referee*.

The Opinions of Pericles.

A pretty little quarrel has just been waged in the press between those two venerable men, the Dean of Canterbury and Mr. Sydney Gedge, all about Pericles and his idea that the less said about women the better. Dean Wace expresses the fear that Suffragists will not trouble their heads much about the opinions of Pericles. On the contrary—we observe that Pericles divides his advice into two, a bit (administered rather indirectly) for the men and a bit for the women—he seems to have said in effect that man might be better employed than in endless discussions about women, and there is some truth in this. But it is perfectly obvious that whether women vote in Church Councils, or wear goloshes, or hobble skirts, or gossip at tea time, or keep their front mats so tidy that their husband's muddy boots cause them acute distress, or do anything or nothing, they cannot prevent men talking about them if they are so minded. His word specially to the women is "your great glory is not to become worse than your natural spirit." Now Mrs. Fawcett herself could not have given sounder advice than this.

In Parliament.

Tuesday, July 7th.

SUB-POSTMISTRESS OF WEYHILL.

CAPTAIN FABER (W. Hampshire, U.) asked the Postmaster-General if any increase had been made in the salary of Miss Lansley, Sub-Postmistress of Weyhill. Miss Lansley's work begins at five in the morning and she has seven postmen under her control. She has been twenty-two years in the service as Postmistress, and her eyesight is giving way owing to over-work. After paying rent for the Post Office Miss Lansley's salary is fourteen shillings a week.

In his reply, MR. HOBHOUSE stated that Miss Lansley had been informed a few days ago that her salary would be increased as from March 1st by over £6 a year. Her net income for post office work was about £65 a year.

CAPTAIN FABER: "Is the right hon. gentleman aware that the £6 a year increase which he has just granted is taken up in extra rent charged this lady?"

MR. HOBHOUSE: No, sir, I was not aware of that fact.

CAPTAIN FABER: Will you inquire into it?

MR. HOBHOUSE gave no reply.

A salary of £65 a year does not seem a very munificent one for the amount of work done, taking into consideration the fact that some £10,000 passes through this Postmistress's hands during the year.

CATTLE-MAIMING (IRELAND) AND MILITANT OUTRAGES.

MR. RUPERT GWYNNE (Eastbourne, U.) asked for leave to introduce a Bill to increase the penalties for malicious injury to cattle and other animals in Ireland and to disqualify persons committing these offences from being elected to or sitting or voting in the Parliaments of the United Kingdom.

It seemed to Mr. Rupert Gwynne that the same school of thought which induced militant Suffragettes to go and burn churches because they were "angry with right hon. gentlemen opposite" also operated in the case of these people, "who seem to think that because they have a grievance against some individuals, the best way of avenging themselves is to go and mutilate cattle who are innocent."

There are many other offences besides mutilation of cattle which might be very fitly punished by depriving the offenders of the franchise, and the House was wise in not raising the question of disfranchisement as a form of punishment for lawbreakers.

Wednesday, July 8th.

INCOME-TAX OF HUSBAND AND WIFE.

MR. CASSEL (W. St. Pancras, U.) referred to the resolution and clause put down by the Chancellor of the Exchequer which would give power which previously did not exist to the Commissioners to distrain upon the wife's goods for the purpose of collecting the husband's income-tax:—

"If that is to be carried through by the guillotine it becomes an entirely different matter from merely carrying out by that procedure a formal resolution for the purpose of enabling a discussion of the question whether the income-tax of husband and wife ought to be separately assessed."

Thursday, July 9th.

GRIEVANCES OF FISHER GIRLS.

SIR A. WILLIAMSON (Elgin and Nairn, L.) asked whether anything had been done on behalf of the fisher girls from whom complaints had been received as to the accommodation on the steamers conveying them to their work from their homes, especially those going to Orkney and Shetland. The conditions on these "are almost inhuman. The girls are alleged to have had no accommodation in the shape of beds, and to have had to lie on the hard boards of the deck, subject, in bad weather, to the spray driving over them." Sir A. Williamson wished to know whether the Board could do anything to alleviate the conditions of which these girls complain.

"After all, they are a respectable, reputable, and well-behaved class of the community, and they do deserve our consideration, because they have practically no means of making their grievances known except by the exceptional measures they took this year when some of them came to London and interviewed members of this House."

MR. BURNS (President of the Board of Trade) said if there were any industrial conditions from which these women suffered and which could be improved, it was the duty of the House of Commons and of every Minister to do what they could do ameliorate their lot. He had received deputations on the subject of their treatment on the steamers and also on the railways and in the waiting-rooms, and strong representations had been made to those responsible for the treatment these girls receive.

Monday, July 13th.

Several questions dealing with women's interests were asked, but owing to lack of space we cannot record them this week.

Women's Suffrage in the Church.

By the Rev. Percy Dearmer, D.D.

The cause of justice has been advanced a step of great importance by the resolution of the Representative Church Council on July 9th, which accorded women the same right to vote as men by substituting the word "persons" for "laymen." As Convocation often boasts that it is older than Parliament, it is but fitting that the Church of England should lead the way now, as it did in the Middle Ages, and that Parliament should be left to follow gracefully, or ungracefully, behind.

What has happened is a little complicated to describe. The ancient Convocation is a clerical body, the two Upper Houses (of Canterbury and York) consisting of diocesan bishops, the two Lower Houses of priests (with some other bishops)—deans, archdeacons, and representatives of the lower ranks of the clergy. With these bodies have been associated in modern times two Houses of Laymen—again one for the Province of Canterbury and one for that of York. These six Houses still more recently—in fact, during the present century—have been called to sit and vote together as "The Representative Church Council," a body that has not the legal powers (such as they are) of Convocation, but is of great weight, and is probably the parent of a wide-reaching democratic movement in the future. The Anglican Church, for the first time in history, has in the Representative Church Council a body on which clergy and laymen have been represented alike.

By the decision of July 9th the Representative Church Council now becomes a body on which clergy, laymen, and laywomen will be represented.

Women have not been altogether excluded under the previous system, but they only voted as ratepayers. A man voted because of his sex, whether he paid rates or not. Clearly a monstrous distinction—the more odious for the franchise of a religious body. Now they will vote on the same terms as men. The voters will be "persons" who have been christened and confirmed. An act of justice has been done.

The matter came up on a discussion about Parochial Church Councils—new bodies which have not yet been completely formed. The Houses of Laymen had defined the voters as "laymen." The Representative Church Council altered this to "persons"; and the suffrage thus defined will extend upwards, since from it are elected the Ruridecanal Conferences, which elect the Diocesan Conferences, which elect the Houses of Laymen.

It is notable that nowadays the bishops are always the most advanced section of these bodies, the other clergy generally coming second, and the laymen a bad third. The representative laymen, in fact, do not really represent the Church, and they are largely put in by the party wire-pullers on what, I believe, is called a "ticket." The voting for the Bishop of Southwell's amendment which substituted "persons" for "laymen" was as follows: *Bishops:* For, 22; against, 3 (one Radical bishop voting against). *Clergy:* For, 90; against, 15. *Laymen:* For, 76; against, 72.

All honour to the Bishops and Clergy!

Then came the question of giving women seats. By a large majority, it was agreed that representatives on these new Parochial Church Councils may be women.

That is all for the moment. The higher bodies (the Ruridecanal and Diocesan Conferences) have their own constitutions—framed in London by the Bishop—a curious arrangement, which exists, I believe, also in other dioceses. The gallant Bishop of Southwell moved a resolution that women be empowered to sit on Ruridecanal and Diocesan Conferences, whatever local rule may have hitherto obtained. This was rejected; the Diocesan Conferences were left free to have their own local rules.

We now wait for a few of our best bishops, like those of London, Southwell, Winchester, and Oxford (to mention only four), to alter their local rules. Until this is done, women will not vote directly for the Houses of Laymen, but will only have the fundamental vote for the Parochial Councils. If I understand the matter correctly (and I am writing late at night, and hurriedly, and the official report is not yet published), women, will vote for their Parochial Councils; they will sit on them also, and thus will vote for electing members to the higher Ruridecanal Conference. But they will not sit, as things are at present, on the Ruridecanal Conference, and therefore will not directly share in electing members for the still higher Diocesan Conference, nor for the highest of all—the House of Laymen, the members of which are elected by the Diocesan Conference.

It all sounds very complicated. It *is* much too complicated. The ancient methods and constitution of Convocation prevent its being simple. Further reforms are needed—especially the ballot, for parochial voting will never be sound (especially in the villages) till the ballot is established. But the initial franchise has been granted to women; and this is an epoch-making fact. I think it is partly due to the last Church Congress, and to Miss Royden's and Mrs. Paget's speeches there. Churchwomen must now move strongly forward, and win their right to seats on the two higher bodies, which exercise the vote for the Houses of Laymen—till these Houses also consist of Christian "persons."

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

DENMARK.

The latest news from Denmark confirms the belief that the Suffragist victory is now assured. The elections to the Upper Chamber are just over, and *The Daily Citizen* states:—

"As a result of the elections there are 20 Conservatives, 5 Moderate Liberals, 20 Liberals, 5 Radicals, and 4 Socialists. The Conservatives lost five seats. Among the twelve members nominated by the king, nine are partisans of the Reform Bill. Thus in the new Landsthing, the number of partisans of the Bill will be 38, and 28 members oppose the Bill."

It will be remembered that in the former Landsthing, the numbers for and against the Amending Bill were equally divided—thirty-three on each side; and it was therefore possible for the Conservative members, by absenting themselves, to prevent a quorum and so obstruct the passage of the Bill. This is now impossible, since half the House is a quorum, and the passage of the Reform Bill is therefore assured.

U. S. A.

Woman Quells Prison Mutiny.

From New York comes news that the revolt of 1,400 prisoners of Blackwell's Island has been practically quelled by the Woman Police Commissioner, Dr. Katherine Davis, when the efforts of men have failed.

It will be remembered that Dr. Davis, a prominent Suffragist, was appointed a few months ago to the very important position of Commissioner of Correction, having under her charge the prisoners of nine city prisons and institutions. Blackwell's Island has been in a state of riot ever since the arrest of the prison doctor, who confessed that he increased his salary by selling morphine to the inmates. Maddened by sudden deprivation of this narcotic, hundreds of the men broke into riot, and chaos reigned until the arrival of Dr. Davis upon the scene, when by methods of peaceful persuasion, supplemented—according to the correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph*—by bread-and-water diet and sleep upon the concrete floor in obdurate cases, peace was gradually restored.

Dr. Davis's methods are thus described in *The Daily Telegraph* of July 13th:—

"Each floor of the gaol was canvassed by warders, and if the majority expressed their willingness to be good occupants, the whole floor were released. In one case thirty out of forty men promised to be good, and the thirty accepted the responsibility for the acts of the other ten. The plan seemed to work very well. . . . The warden, Mr. Patrick Hayes, the centre of the prisoners' attack, might, it is predicted, become his old fierce self again 'after the Commissioner's face was turned homewards.' The warders, however, remarked that a great change had come over 'Paddy.' He was kindness personified, and his old-time sternness seemed to have melted away."

On Sunday, Dr. Davis addressed the convicts of various denominations:—

"To each she preached a little homely sermon, addressing the prisoners familiarly as 'Now, boys, listen to me and be good.' . . .

"She gave the 'boys' an explanation of the growth of, and need for, laws. Her sermon was directly to the point, and was intended to show 'the boys,' in the mildest way possible, how they erred. Several prisoners who made special pleas to see Miss Davis tried to bargain with her. They said they would be good if they were not punished for past performances. The Commissioner told them they could not bargain with her, and they would have to accept whatever the Warden had in store for them."

Women Doctors for New York Hospital.

Some people, according to *The New York Tribune*, attribute also to the influence of Dr. Davis the appointment of three women doctors to the staff of Bellevue Hospital. Hitherto, women doctors have been at a serious disadvantage because the hospitals have refused to admit them; so that it has been difficult for them to get adequate experience.

SOUTH AMERICA.

A correspondent of *The Times* reports from Montevideo that according to the official journal *Dia*, a Bill is being introduced in the Chamber giving Uruguayan women the same political rights as men on condition that they are not subject to any disability provided in the Constitution.

Passing.

AUTHOR'S NOTE.

I give The Common Cause *cordial permission to reprint my sketch "Passing," because I feel that the enfranchisement of women is well-nigh vital to many of these forlorn Bills of Suffering—suffering of women themselves, of animals, above all of children.* John Galsworthy.

I was standing on the Bridge at two o'clock of the summer night; heat-mist down on the water, and the bright face of Big Ben up there, disjoint, set as it were in sky—so dark it was.

I had been there some time, seeking what air there might be in the town, staring vaguely down the broadway of blackness between the misted lights of the river banks, thinking idle thoughts, dreaming perhaps a little; when suddenly I became conscious of something, I could not make out what, not far along the parapet from where I stood. It seemed to be perching there, a thin, grey shape, without face or limbs; and, peering at it, I sidled along, till I found that I was getting no nearer. Startled, I said:

"What is that? Who is it?"

Only a faint sigh answered.

I called again:

"Who are you?"

A soft voice replied this time:

"Don't be alarmed, Sir; I am the Plumage Bill."

Its shape had grown no clearer, but in sheer amazement at those words I went on speaking as though it were indeed a being.

"What are you doing out here? Why are you not in there?" And I pointed to Big Ben.

The voice answered again:

"They have no time for me, Sir. I am resting a moment before I pass."

"But," I said, "it is in there you pass, not here."

I could have sworn I heard it laugh, such a laugh as a dying child will give if you show it a jumping toy.

"Oh, no, Sir! it is here we pass into nothing and the summer night."

And, as it spoke, I felt round me the most extraordinary beating and vibration in the air, a kind of white-grey wonder of invisible wings wheeling and hovering. The whole of dark space seemed full of millions of these invisible wings, so that I stood utterly bewildered among them. Then, from out of that noiseless swirl rose suddenly hundreds of thousands of tiny voices, of birds too young to fly, calling, crying, calling. And, flinging up my hands, I pressed them against the drums of my ears till I thought I should break them in; but still I heard the hundred thousands of shrill little voices crying, crying. And I called out: "Hush! for God's sake, hush!" But on they went, feeble and shrill amid that invisible swirl of the mother wings trying to reach them; and, just when I thought I could bear it no more, the mist on the water curled over and broke like a wave, something sighed out: "Farewell!" and the thin grey shape was no longer there.

All was still once more.

The mist shrouded the water, the Bridge stretched empty, Big Ben glowed in the sky. I drew a long breath and turned to the parapet again. There—there on my other side was that thin grey shape!

"What!" I cried, "you are not, then, gone!"

A voice answered:

"Sir, I have only just come. I am the Bill of the Worn-out Horses."

"Oh!" I cried, "have they no time for you?"

And, as I spoke, I heard the sound of thousands of hoofs, beating, halting, beating; and saw, passing me slowly on the dark air, the gaunt shapes of horses. From side to side, up, down—horses, horses passing, dragging worn feet, halting, passing—their heads lower than their hoofs.

And I cried out:

"Pass! for Christ's sake, pass!"

The voice answered:

"We pass, Sir. Farewell!"

A sound of plunging, the water rose black through the the mist to the level of the Bridge, fell again; and all was once more still.

"I am haunted," I said, and crossed to the other side. There again before me on the parapet was a thin grey shape.

"What, then, are you?" I cried.

"I am the Bill of the Slaughtered Beasts."

"You! How come you *here?* You have not yet come, *there!*"

It answered:

"They have no time to bring me in, Sir. I, too, must pass." And, on the instant, there came at me in the air, as though I were the centre of a wheel, a million spokes of beasts, great beasts and little, quivering, writhing, quivering, with a sound of the gurgling of blood. And, in terror, I cried: "Pass!"

The voice answered:

"We pass, Sir. Farewell!"

And the river ran by, beneath, red, swollen to the height of a hill. All was again still.

And I begun to run, crying aloud:

"Enough! Enough!"

But there on the parapet before me was a thin grey shape, and its voice said:

"I am the Bill of the Caged Wild Song-birds."

"You!" I cried.

"Yes, Sir I pass. They have no time even to bring me into being."

And, as it spoke, from the darkness above came the flutter of myriads of tiny hearts maddened with terror; and a sound such as man can never have heard, of thousands on thousands of little wings beating, struggling, beating against the wires of a cage. From high that sound came slanting down to the water like a swallow dipping, and passed into nothing, more invisible than wind. And that thin grey shape was no longer there.

But on the parapets of either side before me, behind me, were others, many, sitting like rows of penguins. And, as I spun round, they sighed and waved, moving this way and that, as though saying farewell, and one by one dived, and passed into the dark nothingness below. And the whole air was alive with the sobbing of men and women, of children, and of beasts and birds. And just as I thought that I, too, would leap down into the water and escape, the dawn broke. . . .

I rubbed my eyes. Nothing there, save the river running quiet and full, with a grey sheen on it; that bright clock joined once more to earth by its tower; and the sky flecked from pole to pole with tiny white clouds. A breeze fanned my face. Beside me on the Bridge a gentleman in tall hat and black coat was stretching himself and inhaling deep breaths. I turned to him.

"Did you see them, Sir?"

"See what?"

"The Bills."

"What Bills?"

"The Bills of Suffering—there, on the parapet—thin grey things, passing into nothing and the summer night."

He looked at me, and I saw he thought I was demented. Then, with a smile, he pointed to the Clock Tower, and said:

"Bills! I get enough of them in there!"

"Didn't you hear them?"

He answered coldly:—

"My dear Sir, I am a matter-of-fact and hard-worked person, with no time to 'see' things; I have seen and heard nothing. I came out here for a breath of air after sitting there all night." And, pounding with his clenched fist at the air, he added:

"We have just had a glorious scrap."

Understanding then that I must have dreamed, I begged his pardon and moved towards home, passing the Clock Tower

John Galsworthy.

[*By courtesy of "The Westminster Gazette."*]

"The Trail of the Serpent."

By Mary Mortimer Maxwell.

(*Author of "An Englishwoman in New York," &c.*)

The train was just moving out of the station when the guard pushed me into the first compartment which came handy. It happened to be a second-class smoker, with three men in it. There wasn't an evening paper amongst the lot of them, and as I learnt from their conversation that they had a long journey before them, while I was getting out but a few miles further on, I just thought I would leave them something to read and talk about.

Not that they seemed dumb or tongue-tied. Oh, no! They were discussing a church that had been burnt down. One of them said that he wasn't a religious man at all—in fact that churches *as* churches didn't make any particular appeal to him; but it happened that the little church in question had a strong hold on his affections, because it was the church of his boyhood, where he used to sit and go to sleep with his head in the lap of his mother—and you could tell by the way that man spoke that he loved his mother.

"I'd like to get these Suffragists by the neck!" said one of the men, fiercely.

Perhaps it was only my inconvenient imagination, but I thought he looked searchingly at me, and in my fright I just saved myself from crying out:

"Please sir, it wasn't us 'gists'! It was the 'gettes'!"

Then I thought of a more diplomatic way, and I sat comfortably back into my corner, plunged my hand slyly into my shopping bag and under cover of my travelling coat I pulled forth a little leaflet, smoothed it out nicely, and pushed it behind me.

Now, it happened that at the next station, where I got out, the train was held up for a few minutes, so in a casual sort of way I went back and walked past the smoker where the three men had been smoking. They were smoking no longer. The three of them were sitting together, the middle one holding the leaflet so that all could read it. So absorbed were they that they never noticed my passing back and forth in keen enjoyment of the situation.

What was the leaflet? Oh, it was one of the latest things issued by the National Union. In the left-hand corner there was a triangular tri-colour of red, white, and green, and in large attention-compelling letters at the top you could read some distance off the words "MILITANT OUTRAGES.' It was, in fact, the National Union's protest against the burning of churches, and all those other things which peaceful and logical Suffragists believe are putting back the cause of Votes for Women.

I don't know the names of those men. I may never see them again, but somehow I have a prophetic instinct that now that they

have learnt the difference between "gists" and "gettes"—(it is really astonishing what numbers of intelligent people there are who do not know the distinction!)—those three men will help us along to our goal

It was that little experience which gave me an idea for a half holiday one afternoon last week. I had a severe attack of "the blight." When I get that devastating disease I find the only cure is to do something that will appeal to my sense of humour, and make me laugh at myself. So that afternoon I had a game of what the children call "make believe."

"I will," I said to myself, "make believe I am an Anti-suffragist, and as it often takes an anti to convert an anti, perhaps I can cheer myself up and do some good in the world as well."

So I put on my most feminine and fluffy looking summer gown with its hobble skirt, my high-heeled shoes with smartest buckles, my hat with the wreath of variegated flowers, and took my most fetching sunshade, carrying in my hand the prettiest and most useless-looking shopping bag I had, and a sixpenny novel entitled "All for Him!" Then I sallied forth to ride on the tops of 'buses, take journeys in underground trains, and once in a while to indulge in a taxi. I may say that when I started out, the embroidered bag was very heavy, but when I got home, tired, but restored to good humour, and a sensible state of optimism, that bag was so light I could carry it on my little finger. My tri-coloured leaflets on "Militant Outrages" were all distributed from one end of London to the other, and I had done it all after the manner of the most innocent, guileless little Anti-suffragist you ever saw.

Hand them out to passers-by? No, indeed! I just left them behind me wherever I went, as though by the merest accident. I changed 'buses often, and when I took the Tube or District I got out at each station, and so travelled in every compartment of the whole train. Usually when I got on train or 'bus I held in my hand a tightly squeezed up bit of paper, with a bit of red, white, and green showing, just as if a horrid, unwomanly Suffragist had thrust it upon my sweet feminine self, notwithstanding my protest that I didn't want it. Once seated, I would carefully smooth it out, look at it in a disgusted sort of way, and then throw it down on the seat, immediately becoming absorbed in "All for Him!" Why, my very look of shock at that leaflet attracted the attention of all who sat near me, and sometimes half-a-dozen people would make a dive to get the discarded paper. At such times I felt like saying: "Oh, I have hundreds in my pretty bag! Do each have one!" but I knew that would spoil the game. Still, often I was careful to see that there were three or four of the thin leaflets together, so that when a person picked up what looked like one, it would be discovered that there were several.

I had such a good time that day, that I am continuing my "make believe Anti" propaganda wherever I go. I don't know how many converts I have made, but I flatter myself that they are a host. Nobody has as yet discovered that I am the most dangerous sort of arch-conspirator except one man. He is a good friend and one of my editors. It seems he followed me one day when I was jumping in and out of all the carriages of a certain train. He has given those leaflets I leave behind me a special name.

He calls them "The Trail of the Serpent"!

The Meaning of a Map: as it Seems to an Irishwoman.

On Friday, July 10th, *The Irish Independent* published an interesting chart. In it the nine Ulster counties were shown in squares. The proportion of voters in the different denominations were shown by shading. The women, of all denominations, were included in the unshaded white portion. A study of this map revealed the following interesting facts:—

1. In four of the nine counties women form the majority of the population.
2. In the remaining five counties, women are 49 per cent. of the population in four, and in the fifth, Cavan, women form 45 per cent.

Now consider. Unionists base their resistance to Home Rule on the majority of Catholics over Protestants in the rest of Ireland, and in six of the Ulster counties. This, they say, would render administrative injustice certain, and legislative injustice probable. I do not for a moment discuss the justice or injustice of this view. I simply note that it represents the Unionist case against Home Rule.

Now take the Nationalist objection to the indefinite exclusion of all Ulster. According to these authorities such an exclusion would leave the Nationalist minority in three counties at the mercy of the Protestant majority. It would further refuse self-government to the remaining six counties which are mainly Nationalist. Again, I do not stop to consider whether this fear of the other side is well grounded or not. That is not my point. I only note that Mr. Redmond and his followers object to leave Nationalists under the control of a Protestant majority.

Now what about the women? Where do they come in? I have shown that they form a large section of the population. How are their interests to be safeguarded? If the interests of the Unionist minority in Ulster would be unsafe under home Rule, what about the Unionist women in the rest of Ireland? If the Unionist man with a vote in, say, Co. Tyrone, is unsafe, how much more is the Unionist woman without a vote in Co. Clare, for instance?

Take the other case. We have Mr. Redmond declaring that he will not leave the Nationalist voters in Co. Donegal, say, at the mercy of the Unionist majority in Ulster. What about the Nationalist women in Co. Antrim, with no power at all to influence elections? Are they safe, on their own hypothesis?

And lastly, to both sides we appeal. They claim on the one hand the right of the Irish people to self-government. On the other they assert the right of Ulster to remain under whatever form of government she prefers.

Is that section of the population which has no vote to have also no voice in deciding this matter? In no case do this voteless element form less than 45 per cent. of the whole; in one case it forms 53 per cent. According to Sir Edward Carson, this section forms the soul of his movement, and upon it the National Volunteers depend for raising funds. Yet in neither case are the leaders willing to allow these voteless women a share in deciding the question on which the fate of Ulster hangs.

DORA MELLONE.

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WIND AND TIDE.

By E. RENTOUL ESLER.

Author of "The Wardlaws," "The Trackless Way," "The Way they Loved at Grimpat," "A Maid of the Manse," &c.

SYNOPSIS.

Kate Burnsley is the daughter of a rough Irish farmer, but her mother had been brought up in a refined and cultured home, and had only married Burnsley because her father, the Rev. John Moffatt, was reduced to poverty. On her mother's death, Kate takes her place as mistress of the farm, and performs her duties well, but she is in thoroughly uncongenial surroundings. Everything in the house that stirs her imagination, that seems beautiful, has come to Kate from her mother's people. Kate worships her brother Neil, who is training as a solicitor, and resents the admiration of Dick Nelson, a handsome but rough young man, who is obliged to work on her father's farm, because his people had wasted away all their possessions while he was still a child. Biddy Doyle, who comes in to "lend a hand" in the kitchen, has a great admiration for Dick, and, deeply as she is devoted to Kate, rather resents her attitude towards the young man.

Neil comes home for a short holiday, and brother and sister plan out a delightful future together. Her brother's companionship makes Richard Nelson's wooing all the more repugnant to Kate. One day, however, on her way home from market, she is rescued by Nelson from a mad dog, and in the first grateful consciousness of deliverance allows him to kiss her, but as soon as she recovers herself she repulses him. He leaves her in anger but comes next day, to tell her that he has had an offer of a post with a good salary, and asks her to promise to marry him. Again Kate repulses him, and when later on he writes to say that he has come into some property, and that he is still fond of her, she answers his letter rudely. A second letter arrives from Nelson, telling Kate that he has a mortgage on her father's farm, and asking if this makes any difference to her views. She replies that it does not.

Kate's father, however, has different views. Unable to pay off the mortgage, it does not occur to him that his daughter will "have other views than to save her father and brother," especially as Neil has come home seriously ill. In an interview with Nelson he promises that Kate shall marry him, and rides off in high good humour, leaving the young man ill at ease. "He wanted her so much that he would take her against her will, but only in the hope that one day she would be satisfied."

Persuaded by her father and brother, Kate at last consents to marry Nelson, who, in spite of her reluctance, hopes to win her love in the end. He promises to do everything he can for Neil—who is an advanced state of consumption—and treats the whole family with every consideration and kindness.

Wrapt up in her brother, Kate still remains indifferent to Nelson, and when on the very day of the wedding Neil dies, she realises with dismay that she has made her sacrifice for nothing.

After living with her husband a week she leaves him and takes refuge with Mrs. Morgan, a friend of her mother. It is not, however, till the day after her arrival that the opportunity comes for the talk "which each had both desired and dreaded."

CHAPTER XI.

"YOU feel rested?" the elder woman began.

"Quite. I should have liked to help you to-day, but I felt that you did not want me pottering about."

"I wanted you to do just what you felt most inclined to. Now tell me this story of yours."

"Mrs. Morgan, I did not want to marry—him, or anyone."

"But you did marry him."

"Yes, for Neil's sake, and because there was a mortgage on Langanside that Dick held."

"I see, I see." She nodded thoughtfully. Marriages for similar reasons were not unknown in her previous experience.

"Well, Neil—you know, his death and my wedding came together. When he was buried I begged Dick, begged and prayed him to let me go; but he would not, he made me go home with him. Well, I have run away."

"Then you have no home, none with your father or with your husband?"

"To be homeless is not so terrible, when one is young and willing to work."

"And you prefer that? You think that is better than to be a decent man's wife?"

"Better than to be Dick Nelson's wife, certainly."

"What have you done about the mortgage?"

"I posted it to father before I left home. It was my price, you see."

"But is it fair to keep the price, and not deliver the goods?"

Kate looked a little startled.

"I suppose Mr. Nelson meant you to live with him? He did not think of marriage as the mere putting of a ring on your finger."

"I left the ring behind," Kate interposed quickly.

"That hardly breaks the contract. We must try to see what is fair. You have married him, that puts him past anyone else who might be satisfied with him and fond of him. Then you have had his money's worth, the mortgage, and you have given it to your father, who no doubt had the money also. I don't call it honest, and I don't call it kind."

"I had thought a woman would have understood," Kate said, a little sulkily.

"Have you never heard that Ireland is renowned for good wives; long may she keep that reputation! Do you think all these marry with their heart in the matter?"

"At least they consent. They do not marry with their teeth set."

"They have done that too, now and then, and yet have kept their pledge, and lived to turn what was hard and bad into what was good and beautiful."

"He forced me to go with him, and that when my brother had been buried but one day, though he knew the grave would have been more to my mind. Do not defend that Mrs. Morgan, it was monstrous."

The elder woman made no reply

"I suppose you married for love," Kate said after a pause.

"I did."

"Well then, you can't judge of others who didn't. Mrs. Morgan, I can't be polite. I just won't listen to what you say. If you and circumstances leave me no choice but to live with Richard Nelson, I'll make a hole in the first water I come to, though I don't want to do that yet."

Mrs. Morgan's lashless eyes flashed.

"You think there is no trouble as great as to have married against one's will?" she said. "There are worse troubles. Do you know what happened to me? I was one of the prettiest girls in the county, and I took small-pox six years after I was married, when I was twenty-three years of age, and became what you see now, and my husband, who had loved me for my pretty face, never loved me any more; grew to hate me for what I could not help, for what I would have died to hinder had I had a choice. One day I was sitting here sewing when he came in from work. My back was turned to him, and for the moment he forgot. He put his arm round my neck. When his hand touched my cheek, he shook it like that, as if he had touched a snake. Yet I, who loved him, had to go on living with him, keeping my own counsel, and seeming not to care. I had sixteen years of that, serving him, loving him without showing it; tending him, taking care of the house, and minding the children; and every time I looked in the glass and saw my scalded eyelids and pinched nose I said he was right to hate me, though all the time I knew deep down in my heart that he was wrong, that that was no love that had no pity in it, that never for a moment had the real woman that was I been his wife, or dear to him, or understood of him at all. Yet I had to go on, saying nothing, and counting the eggs, and making the butter, and teaching the children their Sunday lessons, and pretending to be content. I had as much right to run away as anyone."

Kate made a gesture of weary denial. "You had other things—the children, and work you liked, and he interested you, he did not bore you and make you wild. If you had been cooped up in a few horrible rooms, with nothing to do but wait for his coming, while wishing he would never come——" She rose and threw out her arms, as if she felt a lasso round her. "You don't know what you advise. I tell you life for me there would make of me a raving lunatic in three months."

"Well, if you feel like that I will say no more. People must live their life in their own way. Nothing is good if we don't want it. Still, I feel this: that this man of yours has not been well treated. Now what are your plans; have you thought of any, and have you any money?"

"Just a few pounds. As to plans, I don't mind what I do, so long as I am free. I would take the place of your hired girl, if you would have me, but it is too near home. They would find me out. If you will let me stay a little while I will plan something."

"As long as you like, dear—as long as you like." Inwardly the elder woman was thinking; "Left to herself she will go back; they all do it, if nothing terrible happens in the interval." Then she sighed, there was always that ugly possibility.

CHAPTER XII.

WHEN Richard Nelson found his wife's wedding ring, left ostentatiously where he could not fail to see it, he stood looking at it dumbly for several minutes. Then he lifted it and held it in the palm of his hand, as if its message would become more intelligible by touch. Then he rubbed it on his coat sleeve till the gold shone, and then he laid it back where he had found it, and slowly quitted the room.

What it meant was obvious enough, but he took a whole day to consider it, going about his work with the look on his face which told the yard men that he would stand no nonsense.

At night he rode over to Burnsley's farm. His riding was significant. Had he expected Kate to come home with him, he would have driven. The farmer was smoking in the chimney corner. He had just made the round of the cattle sheds. The beasts looked well, but such comfort is not enough for the man who has just buried his only son, and married off his only daughter. He sat in a listless attitude, and the lips that held the pipe drooped.

As his son-in-law entered, he looked up with interest, peering behind him for the companion he expected to see with him.

"Kate not with you?" he asked.

Nelson answered "No," and sat down, flicking his leggings with his riding whip.

"Didn't care to come out so late, I suppose?"

"I thought she might have been here. I have not seen her to-day," the young man answered, keeping his eyes lowered.

"Cuttin' capers," Burnsley observed sententiously. "Well, you will just have to break her in. I would rather you had to do it than me, that's the truth. A self-willed huzzy, even if she is my daughter."

"It is not so easy to know how to begin," Nelson observed. A hundred thoughts were buzzing and singing in his slow brain. Had he not tried many methods, had cajoled, had pleaded, had been masterful, and after a week, there was his empty house and the discarded wedding ring.

"'There are three strange things under the sun,'" the older man quoted with a chuckle. "Some women take a lot of tamin'. Her mother was a different sort. Danged if I don't think she takes her spirit from me," he concluded with some measure of admiration.

"Then in that case, maybe you'll advise her—when you find her. I haven't a notion where she is, and she left her ring behind her."

"Her wedding ring?"

"Yes."

Burnsley smoked in silence for an interval. "That's bad," he said at last, judiciously. Another pause, and then he added: "She'll tire of it maybe sooner than you will. I wouldn't follow her."

"Not much chance of that at present."

"She can't be far away; she doesn't know many people, a few school friends and that, and she hasn't much money; one does not go far without money. She'll come here or go back to you pretty soon. I shouldn't be affeart."

Then Richard Nelson said what he might have said much earlier in his history: "It's a serious business, this gettin' married—a life-long business, and never knowin' how you'll hit it off with the other party. There's risk about it, and not much thanks, and if a woman does not like a man, she can do a lot to make him miserable."

"Let the man keep the upper hand; he is a fool if he does not do that. He is bigger and stronger, and older usually, and then he controls the sinews of war," said Burnsley, siding with the man in the struggle as his daughter knew he would. "What can a woman do when she is not allowed a penny? Nothing. I gave Kate a five-pound note on her wedding day, and she had a little egg money of her own. Now see the mistake of that; if she had not had a farden' she would have been by your side still."

"I never meant to keep her tight," Nelson said in a husky undertone. "I meant what was mine to be hers too."

"That's all right, in a way, but it gives them a lot of power, more than the silly ones can make a right use of."

"Kate's no fool," Nelson interposed hastily.

"That's just as you look at it. She was a smart enough little girl about the place, I never complained on her, and mortal set on Neil. If he had lived he could have kept her straight."

"If she had cared for me it would have been all right."

"They can be made to care—after a while."

Nelson went away uncomforted, sorry for himself, and doubtful of himself, disposed to wonder at the first if he had taken the right way with Kate, half-impassioned to have her with him, crushed to his heart again, whether she would or not, and again half-resentful of her cold eyes, her scornful looks at him and his possessions. As yet Nelson was not angry, only hurt. He had done his part of the bargain, would have done more, had he been permitted, but she had not followed suit, had not played the game.

He did not know that he felt much as yet; his mingled emotions of surprise and anger and disappointed affection seemed to hold him to a steady level of depression in which his chief consciousness was of being tired.

When he reached home, he found that the maid-servant had set the supper table for two, and had gone to bed. She had thriftily turned the lamp low, so that it lighted the room but dimly, while emitting a grievous smell.

Nelson turned the light higher, then he threw himself heavily into one of the great leather-covered chairs.

Suddenly he began to weep, the overmastering sense of self-pity fastening its fangs in his throat and heart.

How hard his life had been, and how lonely! What had he ever had? No love, save from Ben, who was dead; little schooling, and, in his maturity, just a hard day's work for a small day's wage. His prosperity, such as it was, had cost him Ben. All his savings as well as those of his brother, had gone into that mortgage, which was lost. And Kate, of whom he had hoped so much, towards whom he had meant so well, Kate had forsaken him. No doubt she would come back, her father, who knew her better than he did, said she would, but her going had taken more than her return would restore.

No matter what should happen in the future, life would never rise again to the level it had occupied, when he drove her home in the moonlight, with one arm round her reluctant shrinking figure, and the other guiding the pony.

He wept till he was exhausted, then he moved across the room towards the table, and began to eat mechanically, helping himself to cold meat and pickles which he swallowed without appetite and without discernment.

The world had begun to shape itself before him like a puzzle, and he could not find the pieces that fitted. It had never worn that aspect to him before, rather had he regarded it as a piece of rough ground which he would improve by good, steady tillage.

He had meant to guard and secure his own section of the earth, and on sensible, practical lines: to love his wife, establish his home, conduct his business intelligently and honestly, working and expecting the fair reward of effort, never forgetting to deal equitably by all men, but determined to be master in his own province.

The corner stone was pulled from that castle in the air now, he had no wife, nor, at the moment, anything but a confused memory of her; and the wedding ring which she had left so disdainfully behind her. He took his face between his hands and stared dully at his empty plate. What could he do, what ought he to do? He did not know. He had married her, marriage gave rights, but how could he enforce these, when she had run away?

He bethought him of the mortgage, as an afterthought, and wondered what she had done with it, then he went heavily to his room. The key stood in her chest of drawers, and he opened these one after the other, without curiosity, almost reverently, as if she had been dead, handling the contents with care, and noting how neatly they were installed: there were her ribbons, her best hat, the dress in which she had been married. That was only ten days ago, it might have been years, so multitudinous were the emotions he had experienced since.

And there was a bit of the crape with which she had trimmed the cheaper hat, and some remnants of the black dress she had had to don so soon after her nuptials. How she had loved Neil! Burnsley was right, if Neil had lived it would have made much difference to Richard Nelson.

(To be continued.)

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS *to be addressed to The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* ADVERTISEMENTS *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

NOTICE.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

"Don't Ask Us; Think About Us; Do Something for Us."

The Report for 1913 of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops has recently appeared, and is presented, in a letter of preface dated "Home Office, June," to the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna. We hope that Mr. McKenna will give his serious attention to the Report, not excluding that section for which the "Principal Lady Inspector" is responsible.

Miss Anderson and her twenty colleagues are not sensation mongers. Sympathy with the working women whose lot they seek to better pulses in every line they write, and perhaps it is this understanding of the women's outlook which has made them catch something of their philosophic calm. Of a girl of seventeen who had been partially scalped in a factory accident, Miss Martindale says: "Her pluck and bravery were noteworthy," and of another whose hand had to be amputated after vain attempts to save it, "the girl mastered her disappointment (*sic*) and in two or three days after the operation began to practise writing with her left hand, and in a month had become almost as proficient in writing as with the right hand."

The tone of this Report reminds us of the Italian painter's "Fortitude," the female figure with the wise, wise face, the attitude almost nonchalant as she toys idly with her peaceful "weapon," the deep enduring purpose.

The Report speaks of hope. And what is this hope? It lies in the women who "at last begin to press their claims for a better life than the one they have . . . by signs of fresh courage in organising and voicing their needs to the employers." Perhaps they begin to believe in themselves because their fellow-women, the inspectors, believe in them. Miss Tracey's ideas about malingering, for example, may have put fresh life into some woman's heart:—

"When, as is so common now, women are accused of malingering, I often wish that complainants would accompany me on my investigation of cases of accidents or poisoning at the workers' homes, for I know that, like me, these people would return in a humbled frame of mind, recognising courage and endurance under circumstances which would break many of us."

There lies hope for the future, that those who see the daily lives of these women most, believe in them most. Without such belief reformers eat out their souls in misery and bitterness. They become as Robert Tressall, the Socialistic house-painter became, dying a thousand times before their death. They become, like his "hero" in *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*:—

"Owen worked on in a disheartened, sullen way. He felt like a beaten dog.

. . . . . .

"And the future, as far as he could see, was as hopeless as the past; darker in fact.

. . . . . .

"As Owen thought of his child's future, there sprung up within him a feeling of hatred and fury against the majority of his fellow workmen.

"*They were the enemy*—those ragged-trousered philanthropists, who not only quietly submitted like so many cattle to their miserable slavery for the benefit of others, but defended it, and opposed and ridiculed any suggestion of reform.

"*They were the real oppressors*—the men who spoke of themselves as 'the likes of us,' who, having lived in poverty and degradation all their

lives, considered that what had been good enough for them was good enough for the children they had been the means of bringing into existence.

"He hated and despised them."

Such a reproach does not lie as between the women inspectors and the women workers with whom they have been dealing. May it become unthinkable that it should ever lie as between women of any class or rank.

The "Lady Inspectors" believe in the women, and to some extent they also believe in the employers—or at least they recognise that employers are of two sorts, good and bad (as well as the others, the indifferent). And alas! some of the women are even still afraid to speak out, because they fear loss of employment and they fear also to discredit their own simple code of honour—"loyalty" to those who employ them. This point of view appears in an "annonamos" letter about seats for winders:—

". . . . I hope, Dear Lady, you will see to this . . . the winders are an uncomplaining lot if you asked them would they like to be provided with seats they would smile and say they were all right, it would look to them like making complaints behind backs but don't ask us but think about us and do something for us and our children will rise up and call you blessed."

It sounds so easy—to *think* about them, and yet it is there the horror lies. It is always courage and more courage that is needed—for many women hardly dare to think about how their fellow-women live.

Miss Tracey speaks of this:—

"Often we receive complaint of the burden of the long twelve hours' day, and the strain it is to start work at 6 a.m. A well-known man in a Lancashire town was telling me only the other day about how he would wake in the morning to the clatter of the girls' and women's clogs as they went past his house at half-past five in the dark on their way to the mills. He had exceptional opportunity of judging of the effect of the long day's work, and he told me how bonny children known to him lost their colour and their youthful energy in the hard drudgery of this daily toil. How the girls would fall asleep at their work, and how they grew worn and old before their time. We see it for ourselves and the women tell us about it. Sometimes one feels that one dare not contemplate too closely the life of our working women, it is such a grave reproach. I went to a woman's house to investigate what appeared a simple, almost commonplace accident. She was a middle-aged, single woman living alone. Six weeks before my visit she had fainted at her work and in falling (she was a hand gas ironer) she had pulled the iron on her hand, that and the metal tube had severely burnt both arm and hand. She was quite incapacitated. She told me she left home at 5.15, walked 2½ miles to the factory, stood the whole day at her work, and at 6, sometimes later, started to walk home again and then had to prepare her meal, mend and do her housework. This case is only typical of thousands of women workers. She got her 7s. 6d. insurance money and that was all. She made no effort to enlist my sympathy, but just stated the facts quite simply. Her case is not so bad as many, for in addition to their own needs, a married woman or a widow with children has also to see to the needs of the family, meals, washing and mending and the hundred and one other duties that are required to keep a home going."

Yet these women inspectors spend their lives among it all, and therefore they know that emotions of pity alone can avail little. The cause of what is wrong must be sought and removed. To understand the relation of cause and effect it is necessary to have a trained mind and to use a well-disciplined imagination.

Miss Anderson speaks with a certain dry humour of the failings of some charitable and religious institutions which are caused partly, she believes, by "a certain defect of practical knowledge and imagination in the governing committees concerned." Many people, whether on committees or not, prefer generalities to such stubborn facts as Miss Slocock has faced: "In the bacon factory case, Miss Slocock had to prosecute for employment of women on several consecutive days from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. in gut cleaning and scraping, the work being exhausting and carried out under most disagreeable conditions." (We must not forget that the Dean of Canterbury fears the introduction of "unrealities" if women are admitted to the councils of the Church—is it hearing of this kind of thing he fears? It would seem most unreal in the atmosphere of some Cathedral Closes.)

The absurdity of things in general must sometimes strike these inspectors. It must sometimes seem that twenty of them are not very many for the problem they have to face, and that for 389 factories and 3,286 workshops to be allotted to one lady for inspection is more complimentary to her ability and energy, than wise in itself.

It is possible that if some men had nearly 4,000 places to inspect they would refrain from a "Sherlock Holmes" feat such as is described on page 87 of the Report:—

"An unusual case of anthrax was referred to me for investigation. The woman was married and employed as a spinner in a cotton mill. The cotton had been shipped from Alexandria. . . . Nothing was proved as to the real source of infection. She was conveyed to the hospital desperately ill and an operation was performed. When I saw her in bed she was getting on well; she told me that when in the mill she had wiped her face with her apron, and in doing this had knocked off the head of the postule on her cheek. On further enquiry I found that she was quite accurate in the statement, but the curious point was that though the extreme precaution had been taken of burning the surgeon's operating coats and gloves and her bedding, etc., this apron had been overlooked and had been left in the mill, a possible source of infection. Like an amateur feminine Sherlock Holmes, I went from place to place, from person to person, until the infected apron was tracked down. The local authority immediately caused its destruction, with the basket and anything else with which it was known to have been in contact."

It really seems as if women *were* needed in public life, after all. This Report does not touch upon the necessity of votes for women, yet few could read it without seeing, as they have never seen before, that the wage-earning women of this country need, just as much as the wage-earning men, the protection accorded by political representation. We have said we hope that Mr. McKenna will read and digest, but we believe that he would read more closely and digest more thoroughly if women had votes.

The State must demand more of a woman than that she should bear a child, it must demand more of her than that she should be a factory hand,—it must demand of her and for her that she become a responsible human being. What is the girl doing for the State, or the State for the girl of whom it can be said: "She had to cap 50 gross of pins for 1s. 3d., but when the work was taken in she was told she was ¾ lb. brass short, so 2s. 3½d. was deducted from her weekly wage of 5s. 7d." And what of the wife and mother in the case Miss Anderson thus summarises:—

"Illegal employment full time in a tobacco factory on a falsified birth certificate of a little girl of thirteen too delicate to attend school was proved; the information had to be laid against the father as legal parent, but the child gave evidence that her father did not know of her employment, and as it was impossible to bring the mother, who did know of the child's daily employment, as witness against the father a conviction could not be recorded."

The most timorous might learn from it that the time for the enfranchisement of the "female sex" is, as a woman from overseas put it the other day, "rotten ripe."

LEEDS SOCIETY (During Wesleyan Conference.)

MONDAY, JULY 20, at 5.30, in BELGRAVE CENTRAL HALL.

Rev. J. SCOTT LIDGETT, D.D., will preside.
Rev. J. HOPE MOULTON, M.A., D.D., will open and close the meeting with prayer.
Miss MURIEL MATTERS will speak on "The Christian Call for Women's Enfranchisement."
Mr. T. J. Hoggett, Mus. Bac., will preside at the Organ.

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1st day.—Route *via* Burnsall to Grassington. Meeting on the Green at 8 p.m.
2nd day.—Leave Grassington 10.30 a.m., *via* Conistone to Kettlewell. Meeting in Kettlewell, 7.30. Return to Grassington *via* Kilnsey.
3rd day.—Leave Grassington 10.15, *via* Cracoe and Rylstone to Skipton. Meeting in the Market-place at 8 o'clock.
4th day.—Leave Skipton at 10 a.m., *via* Early to Barnoldswick. Meeting at Jepp Hill at 8 o'clock.
5th day.—Leave Barnoldswick 10.15, *via* Gisburn to Hellifield. Meeting on the Green, 8 p.m.
6th day.—Leave Hellifield 10.30, *via* Long Preston and Rathmell to Settle. Meeting in the Market-place at 8 o'clock.
7th day.—Sunday in Settle.
8th day.—Leave Settle 10 a.m., *via* Clapham to Lower Bentham. Meeting by Cross at 8 p.m.
9th day.—Leave Lower Bentham by train for Sedbergh. Meeting in Market-place 8 o'clock. Or—leave Lower Bentham at 11.30, walk to Ingleton. Meeting in the Square at 8 p.m.

Distance covered each day about ten miles.

Speakers for the Tour.—Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Muriel Matters, Mrs. Carp.

Further details to be had from Miss LONGMAN, 35, Park-square, Leeds.

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HOW SOME OF US LIVE.

WOMEN'S WORK IN THE POTTERIES.

By Our Commissioner.

"Go home and wash the dishes," is one of the many rude injunctions still hurled by the ignorant and unthinking at the woman addressing a meeting from a box at the street corner, or from a lorry in the market place. The mind of even the most antiquated Anti-suffragist sees something appropriate in the connection of women with dishes and pots. Women are the dish-washers of the world, and, housekeeping being the most universal of the occupations of women, even those who escape the dish-washing all come more or less directly in contact with those essential articles of civilised life. Many a woman's heart innocently swells with housewifely pride as she surveys her dinner and tea and toilet services, and the cheerful glow of the tiles on the winter hearthstone adds one pleasure the more to her sense of comfortable home-making. She sees not, nor do any of us see, as we sit around the table at the family meal-time, the ghost behind the feast, the haunting shadow of the human artificer, who, into some of those articles of pottery which we use so lightly, has put one of the most priceless of human rights—health and bodily well-being, laid as a sacrifice on the altar of production.

Though we see it not, the ghost is there. In a vague way, it is more or less generally known that in the Staffordshire potteries women are employed, and that there is something uncomfortable and unsatisfactory about it. There knowledge ends for many of us. We shall all be agreed about the usefulness of the products of the pottery towns; even those pieces of pottery which are produced merely to minister to our sense of beauty have their uses. Why should the making of what are necessities to all mean the denial of what are surely no less necessities—health and the joy which comes from health—to those who produce these things for us? Pottery making is not, and of course never has been, a home occupation. Machinery plays comparatively little part in its production, and it is a manufacture open to the man with small capital. Pottery works, or "pot-banks," as the local term has it, may be very small, employing perhaps a dozen people, including the proprietor, or they may be large works, employing hundreds. Women and girls take part in many of the processes, and a woman may therefore find herself almost alone as a worker, or she may work in company with many others. She may perform one small part only, or she may combine several jobs; one woman whom I met recently combined three jobs which are usually separated, and was the only woman in her department. It is interesting to note that the combination of jobs makes no difference to the pay. This woman's wage was 2s. per day.

The early processes, where the clay is mixed and cleansed and moulded, are not work which is particularly liked. They are not so clean or so "respectable" as some of the later processes, and the general idea is that the clay-workers are "a rough lot." A working man of the more responsible type would not choose "the clay" as an occupation for his daughter. Few women deliberately choose it, but some girls drift into it from lack of opportunity to obtain something better. The wages paid in this branch are not tempting. It would be unsafe to give specific and detailed information, the conditions and rates vary so much, but a rough average of anything from 3s. or 4s. up to 10s. a week will be somewhere near the mark. The "biscuit" stage (after the first burning) is more popular. Warehouse wages, however, either in biscuit or in later stages when the finishing touches are being applied, seldom rise above 10s. per week. This is, none the less, a very "respectable" part of woman's work in the Potteries.

Another process, where the half-made ware is dipped into a solution containing lead, also includes women. Of the 6,865 persons engaged in the "dangerous processes" of the making of china and earthenware, 2,361 are women. All the workers, men and women, who come in contact with ware which is dipped into a glaze which contains more than a certain proportion of low solubility, are running risks. A majority are liable to suffer bad effects. The dipper is usually, but by no means invariably, a man. I have never met a woman dipper who is paid the same wage as a man, and recently met a case where a woman took a dipper's job at precisely half his wage—12s. 6d. to his 25s. The girl or woman who is a "taker off"—that is, who takes the dipped ware from the dipper, and those who follow, the ware cleaners (always women), who prepare the dipped ware for the oven, run the greatest risks, though women performing subsidiary jobs also occasionally suffer. The wages for this work vary. Quite young girls—sixteen or seventeen—may be taking off; ware cleaners are usually older. Any wage from 6s. to 15s. or 16s. may be earned.

Transferring—that is, the printing of patterns on the ware, and several attendant jobs subsidiary to this, also come within the sphere of women. The wages, for a transferrer who has learnt her job, are about 12s.

The process of painting and gilding, also woman's work, is a very skilled and interesting job, and in a long experience I have never met a woman who did not like this work, and have met many who have had all a craftswoman's pride and joy in the work of their hands. Danger lurks here, too, and the paintress who manipulates on majolica runs risks. Majolica is decorative ware made of the same body as earthenware (or from red or yellow clays), but the glaze, before application, is mixed with colouring oxides or pigments.

Apprenticeship has to be served to painting (as to transferring), and it is the most respectable of all the processes of pottery manufacture in which women take part. Between the paintress and the clayworker is a gulf as wide as between the skilled engineer and the labourer. A paintress invariably lives in a bay-windowed house, with three rooms and a lobby; the clay-worker, and those between the two, live somewhere else, of which more anon.

Wages for painting are at high-water mark. A skilled woman in regular employment may make nearly a pound a week—or less. A rough average would be anything from 12s. to 16s. Apprentices get a small sum weekly. The whole system of wage-paying in the pottery trade is so complicated and varying that hard and fast figures would be as impossible as misleading. In some potteries and in some processes the women are paid by time, when the wage is usually from 1s. 4d. to 2s. per day; in other potteries and processes piece rates obtain, and these vary so much that it is only possible to strike a rough average. Some women, who occupy the position of a "missus," or forewoman, are paid a price per oven, and out of this they pay those who work with them and under their direction, and the total wage paid then depends on the price per oven, and the number of ovens in a week, and so on. From careful inquiry, extending over a long period, I should judge that the average wage of women in the Potteries is certainly not more than 10s. per week. Many earn more, many earn less.

The number of hours worked is usually from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 1 o'clock on Saturdays. In the large potteries, work is fairly continuous, the number of ovens being enough to keep the workers going. In smaller potteries there is more slackness, caused by the waiting for ovens. For an oven to be "placed" (a man's job), to be fired, and to cool down, occupies several days, and sometimes there is a waiting process. It thus happens in the Potteries that both men and women who are in regular employment, are not at work for odd days, and this complicates the calculation of hours, as well as piece wages.

The above is merely an outline of women's part in pottery-making, and no attempt has been made to enumerate the subsidiary jobs which may fall to their share in all the chief processes in which they are engaged, nor of the much larger share taken by men. The manufacture of "pots" consists of so many different jobs that in the space at my disposal no more than a survey of the main parts of the woman's share has been possible.

(Next article: Dangers to health to which pottery-workers are exposed.)

Books and Pamphlets Received.

Woman Under a Liberal Government, 1906-1914. An account of the manner in which Liberal Principles are applied to the "Protected Sex." By Winifred Holiday. (New Constitutional Society for W.S., 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, S.W.)

The Fingerpost. (4th Edition.) Section III.—Women in the Medical, Nursing, and Allied Professions. (Women's Employment Publishing Co., 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.)

Give Us White Men! A Symposium on the Social Evil from the Woman's Point of View. Edited by Pearkes Withers. (Cassell. 1s. net.)

The Meaning of Marriage. By G. Spiller. (Watts. 1s. net.)

The Future of Education. By F. Clement C. Egerton. (Bell. 3s. 6d. net.)

The Feeding of School Children. By M. E. Bulkley. (Bell. 3s. 6d. net.)

Pride of Body. By Hugh de Sélincourt. (St. Catherine Press. 1s. net.)

The Christian Patriot. By Bernard M. Hancock. (John Ball, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd. 1s.)

Garden Cities and Canals. By J. E. Nettlefold. (St. Catherine Press.)

Correspondence.

HOUSEWIVES' UNION.

MADAM,—In your issue of April 24th, I see a reference to "The Housewives' Union in New Zealand." Can you tell me is there any such League in England? If there is, the address would very greatly oblige me.

2, Bena View, Blaenar, Festiniog. (MRS.) E. GRIFFITH.

FLOGGING CLAUSES.

MADAM,—Mrs. Fitzroy Hecht is quite mistaken in supposing that the Humanitarian League's pamphlet, "The Case Against Corporal Punishment," does not touch on "the deterrent effects of legalised flogging." As a matter of fact, five pages—a fifth part of the pamphlet—are devoted directly to the question, "Does flogging prevent crime?"

It is true that the pamphlet, which was published early in 1912, does not allude to the Criminal Law Amendment Bill passed later in the year; but it is by no means "out of date" on that account, for its arguments are as applicable to that particular Flogging Bill as to those which preceded it. The offences which are put forward as excuses for flogging may vary from time to time, but the excuses themselves remain essentially the same. If, however, Mrs. Hecht would like to see the views of the Humanitarian League on the flogging of "White Slavers," she can consult a later pamphlet entitled "Fallacies of Flaggellants."

The Humanitarian League, HENRY S. SALT.
53, Chancery-lane, W.C.

LIBERAL WOMEN AND ANTI-SUFFRAGE CANDIDATES.

MADAM,—It was a great disappointment to many of the Liberal women that the majority at the late meetings of the Women's Liberal Federation voted against the proposal that Liberal women should only support Liberal candidates who were in favour of the women's vote. The majority, happily, was only a small one, 400 voting for and only 450 odd against, and the steadfastness of so many is something to be thankful for. I think a plea was put about that women must be unselfish, and put the general measures of the party before their own particular measure. Are not women who argue thus forgetting that many men have long traded on the unselfishness of the other sex, and have been selfish in their treatment of the weaker women, knowing that the stronger ones will not protect them? May not the time now come when to be "selfish" over the women's question is the highest form of unselfishness?

To me it seems degrading to work politically for a man who tells me I am unfit for political judgment. I think it is more than ingratitude to those Liberal members who work for our cause if we work as willingly for those who do not. I was much pleased when a Liberal candidate thanked me warmly, hearing that I had refused help to a candidate in my own division, learning that he was an Anti-suffragist.

If Liberal women wished to show they were indifferent to the Suffrage, they took the best way possible to testify, by voting to put men who work for and the men who work against on an equal footing in the party. Last year, when the vote in the Federation went the same way, I heard that an M.P. said he was not going to take the trouble to go to the House to vote for the Suffrage as the Liberal women had just shown they were indifferent about it. On the other hand, had there been a strong stand for the vote, even Mr. Asquith himself, who listens to Liberal women if he does to any women, might have ceased to shilly-shally.

Perhaps if the truth were known many provincial Liberal women are timid and hesitating on the subject, and were glad to follow a strong lead from the Chair, which indicated it should be put in the background in their programme.

ELIZABETH COBB.

STREET SELLING.

MADAM,—May I urge upon those of your readers who are able to devote time to the street-selling of THE COMMON CAUSE, the pressing necessity of wearing, either upon their bags or upon their person, the words "Law-abiding" or "Non-militant," or both, that the ordinary public may be under no misapprehension as to the methods of the society which we sellers represent.

I have heard it urged, as a reason for not wearing anything more than the small N.U. badge, that it is rather cowardly and rather undignified thus to advertise the fact that the N.U. works by constitutional methods only. The public ought to be able to see for themselves that we are selling THE COMMON CAUSE and not the *Suffragette*, and that our badge is red, green and white, instead of the purple, green and white of the militants.

To this argument I would answer:—

(1) The sort of person whom we wish particularly to convince of our constitutional character is precisely the sort of person who never troubles to notice whether a woman selling papers in the street wears red or purple; the colours mean nothing to him. I know from personal experience also that the man in the street frequently considers THE COMMON CAUSE is a synonym for *Suffragette* (I do not follow his line of reasoning, but such is the case).

(2) I do not advocate the wearing of "Law-abiding" or "Non-militant" advertisements as a means of self-protection, although I believe that it does afford some slight protection against rough usage. Primarily I think it is urgently necessary for the sake of the cause. What is the use of the N.U. being a constitutional society if its members are constantly mistaken for militants, and its official organ for the militant paper? Members of the N.U. who, through lack of sufficient advertisement, are believed to be militants, are only doing harm to the cause, though they sell every day for weeks. After all, the people who buy the paper are for the most part friends of the cause. While those who do not buy are usually those who are ignorant enough to believe that all Suffragists are militant. It is precisely this class whom we want to touch, and we shall never touch it until we advertise in a striking manner our non-militant policy.

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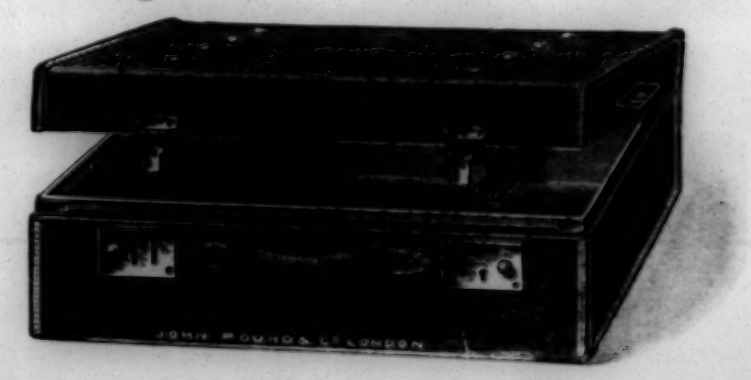

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Further News of the International Week.

The Officers of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance and the Presidents of the affiliated National organisations have received a warm welcome from British Suffragists during their visit to London. Apart from business connected with the preparations for next year's International Women's Suffrage Congress at Berlin, the last week has been occupied with a series of social functions. These included a reception by Lady Selborne and Winifred, Lady Arran, on behalf of the C. and U.W.F.A., already reported; an entertainment given by the Women's Suffrage Union British Dominions Overseas, assisted by the Actresses' Franchise League, and a most enjoyable tea-party at the house of Mr. and Miss Balfour in Carlton Gardens, to which the international delegates, the Executive Committee of the Conservative and Unionist Womens' Franchise Association, and representatives of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies were invited to meet some of the most prominent Suffragist members of the Unionist Party, amongst whom were Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Steel Maitland, and Lord Lytton. The International visitors greatly enjoyed seeing Mr. Balfour's famous Burne-Jones pictures.

On Saturday, July 11th, the Officers and Executive Committee of the National Union gave a luncheon party at the Anglo-American Exposition to the International Suffragists and the delegates to the Women's Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, and the Executive Committee of the London Society of the N.U. In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Fawcett, Lady Frances Balfour took the Chair.

It was a wonderfully representative gathering. From Finland, where the vote is won, but where, as Miss Furuhjelm said, Russian oppression renders it difficult to take full advantage of it; from Denmark, whence news had arrived that morning of election results which will mean a speedy victory for the cause of Women's Suffrage; from little Switzerland, where the movement is but some five years old, but making gallant progress; from the "long and vast solitudes" of Africa—few nations, save those of the Far East, were unrepresented. All had the same tale to tell—of the steadily growing demand among women for their rights as human beings, that they may discharge to the full their ever-increasing responsibilities. All testified to the tremendous stimulus afforded by the solidarity of the International movement, which makes a victory in one corner of the globe a victory for the whole movement, and encourages those with whom, for the moment, progress seems slow and the delays and trickery of politicians intolerable. Mrs. Swanwick, proposing the toast of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in an original and interesting speech, expressed the belief, which was evidently shared by all present, that it was not so much the fighting spirit that was needed to bring the cause to victory, but the spirit of knowledge and understanding. There was no short cut to the vote, if the vote was to be of any use when it was won. The atmosphere created by those who were working for it, as Mme. Schlumberger later expressed it, would decide how far the movement would contribute to the progress and uplifting of mankind.

Sunday was the occasion of a delightful lunch and garden party given by Mrs. Auerbach at her lovely house at Reigate, whither the guests were motored down from town. On the following day Miss Marshall secured orders for several of the delegates to hear the debate in the House of Lords.

On Tuesday, the Parliamentary supporters of Women's Suffrage, on the initiative of Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P., entertained the International delegates and the Officers of the N.U. and the London Society to tea on the Terrace of the House of Commons. Before tea an informal meeting was held in one of the Committee rooms. Mr. Dickinson and Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and Mr. Acland made brief speeches of welcome, all of which were marked by the conviction, strongly expressed, that the granting of Women's Suffrage in this country could not be much longer delayed. Mr. Acland went so far as to give it as his personal opinion that the next Government, to whatever party it might belong, would be obliged to introduce some form of Women's Suffrage as a party measure.

Mrs. Chapman Catt, in returning thanks on behalf of the guests, paid a warm tribute to the work of the friends of the movement in the British House of Commons. International Suffragists, she said, still hoped that Great Britain would lead the way in this reform, for the world was wont to follow this country in questions of democracy. She believed that the measure which granted the franchise to women would be an Act as great as Magna Carta.

Miss Furuhjelm, one of the twenty-one women members of the Finnish Diet, brought a cordial greeting from her women colleagues to the Suffragists in the House of Commons.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION—BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

Those interested in the promotion of the Overseas Union have had a busy week of business conferences, receptions, and visits to various centres of "Suffrage" interest. The meeting at which the new Society was actually inaugurated was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel, on July 9th, and was presided over by Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G. There was an excellent attendance, and the following resolutions were passed with enthusiasm:—

1st.—"That this meeting, held under the auspices of the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union, cordially welcomes the formation of this new Union and wishes it all good speed."

2nd.—"That this meeting, held under the auspices of the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union, arraigns the Imperial Government for its attitude towards the great constitutional agitation for Woman Suffrage, deplores the coercion of the unconstitutional agitators instead of the redress of a just grievance, and urges the immediate introduction of a Government measure granting votes to women on equal terms with men."

3rd.—"That this meeting, held under the auspices of the British Dominions' Woman Suffrage Union, protests against the treatment of women by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill, and calls upon Parliament to accord to all British women the right to decide whether they shall retain or change or revert to their own nationality."

Among the speakers were Miss Hodge (who, with Miss Newcombe has devoted much energy to the organisation of the Union), Lady Aberconway, Miss N. Boyle, Mrs. C. Chapman, Mr. Ensom, Mrs. Leathes, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Mrs. Montefiore, Mrs. Ransom, and Mrs. Wyberg. Miss Courtney, on behalf of Mrs. Fawcett and the N.U.W.S.S., delivered a message of cordial greeting to the newly formed Society (reported in our issue of July 10th). Addressing herself specially to the visitors from the Overseas Dominions, she proceeded to outline the scope and methods of the parent Union. Expressing herself as of the opinion that one of the great aims of Suffragists should be to transform the attitude of men to women and of women to themselves, she pointed out that the N.U.W.S.S. holds violence to be a negation of any right attitude as between men and women, or women to themselves, and a negation of what the woman's movement stands for. In regard to the constitution of the Union, Miss Courtney commented on its democratic character as in itself an educative force, and as an admirable means of effecting political pressure.

Apart from questions directly affecting the franchise campaign, the matter which called forth one of the strongest expressions of indignation from the meeting was the attempt now being made by the Government to deny to British women the right of retaining British nationality upon their marriage to aliens. Lady Aberconway, who is putting up a vigorous fight, and is calling upon the women overseas to bring their political power to our aid, delivered a rousing speech on the subject, which evoked much enthusiasm.

We are informed that the new Union is endeavouring to arrange a deputation to Mr. Asquith to present the above resolutions.

ACTIVE SERVICE LEAGUE.

While open-air campaigns are being pressed on with exceeding activity all over the country, and meeting with a great measure of success, the task of recruiting in the London area must, perforce, at this time of the year, progress somewhat slowly, and it is for the coming autumn that we are now laying our plans for a London "season" of the Active Service League. Then it is hoped to form groups of Leaguers, each under their own leader, who will undertake special work For instance, a group who will hold themselves responsible for "manning" the Hyde Park meetings on Sunday afternoons, and be called "The Hyde Park Meetings Group," another group whose special work will be outdoor COMMON CAUSE selling during the week, and so on. This will entail our securing a large number of recruits, but surely this ought not to be difficult if only the young people of London would realise that as they will assuredly share in the benefit of enfranchisement, each one should do her bit of work to ensure this end. Let the young women of leisure give some of their time on week days, and those who are earning their livelihood and therefore occupied during the week, give an occasional Sunday afternoon; then, indeed, when the cause is won, they will experience the joy of having shared in the strife and hardship which will have brought such a mighty reform to victory.

Miss Dimock, of the London Society, has been appointed Section Leader, *pro tem*. Will those who are willing to help in recruiting for our League communicate either with Miss Dimock (at the London Society, 58, Victoria Street, S.W.), or myself?

KATHERINE M. HARLEY,
Active Service League Leader, N.U.W.S.S.
14, Great Smith Street.

SEASIDE PROPAGANDA.

Mdlle Stès ("The Outpost," Sleights, Yorks) appeals to Suffragists spending their holidays in or near Whitby for help with a Suffrage stall on the pier on the four Saturdays in August for selling THE COMMON CAUSE and Suffrage literature, and distributing leaflets, &c.

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP.

A Garden Party, in aid of the funds of the International Suffrage Shop, will be held on Saturday, July 25th. The Actresses' Franchise League have kindly assisted in arranging a very interesting programme. Among the artistes will be Miss Decima Moore and Urik Tschaikowski, violinist. For further particulars, see advertisement in this issue

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Notes from Headquarters.

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Hon. Secretaries:
Miss K. D. Courtney.
Miss C. E. Marshall (Parliamentary).
Miss Emily M. Leaf (Press).
Miss Evelyn Atkinson (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
Mrs. Auerbach.

Secretary:
Miss Crookenden.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1980 Victoria.

Hyde Park Meeting, Sunday, July 12th.

The keenest enthusiasm marked the attitude of the crowd at the National Union meeting again in Hyde Park on Sunday, and there was no attempt to interrupt the speakers in any way. The flag of the Anti-suffragists was conspicuous by its absence. The crowd was unusually large, and included many foreigners, amongst whom several Siberian peasants made a picturesque group and seemed to be keenly interested in what must have seemed to them to be a strange procedure. Miss Margaret Robertson spoke for over an hour, and evoked many cheers from the audience. Numbers of "Friends" cards were signed, and on the announcement of the speakers for next Sunday, a gentleman in the crowd called out, "Well, whoever they are they could not be better than these."

Press Report.

The visit of the Presidents and Delegates of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance has filled the press with interest, from the Woman's Suffrage point of view, this week. The proceedings of the Board of Officers were private, but *The Manchester Guardian* published an interesting report on the plans of the Alliance for future work, in its issue of July 13th.

The Christian Commonwealth has recently been publishing most excellent articles, notably one by Mrs. Swanwick on July 1st, entitled "Concession to Violence," which should be read by all members of the National Union. It also gave last week a page of photographs of the International visitors.

Several representatives of the more important London papers were invited to the National Union offices to meet the foreign visitors, and most interesting interviews, giving information of the Woman Suffrage movement throughout the world, have been published in *The Daily Chronicle*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Daily News*, and other friendly papers. *The Daily Citizen* gave a record of the International movement and a leading article dealing comprehensively with the whole subject.

An excellent photograph of the Presidents of the International Alliance and members of the Executive of the National Union and London Society visiting the House of Commons was produced in *The Daily Sketch;* and, generally speaking, the press has given the visitors a warm welcome.

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Miss W. M. Gurney Smith ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Madeline Grubb	1	1	0
Miss Caroline Churchill ...	1	0	0
Miss Pauline Ross	1	0	0
Mrs. Todhunter	1	0	0
Miss Ford Smith		5	0
Mrs. Lawrence	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Corbett Fisher	1	1	0
Mrs. F. M. Bousfield	1	1	0
Mrs. C. H. Shore	1	0	0
Anonymous		6	6
Miss E. Blomfield		5	0
Miss M. Crofton		5	0
Mrs. M. M. Soulsby		5	0
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Mrs. A. Schuster	5	0	0
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Mrs. H. Enfield Dowson ...	2	2	0
Mrs. J. S. Turner	2	0	0
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Professor F. E. Weiss	1	1	0
Miss E. C. Matravers	1	0	0
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Miss A. B. Weir		2	6
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Mr. E. H. Smith	2	0	0
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Miss Bache		10	0
Mrs. McCleverty		5	0
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Mrs. Arthur Gibson	2	0	0
Miss C. I. Morison	1	1	0
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News from the Societies and Federations.

North-Western Federation.—(continued)

AMBLESIDE AND DISTRICT held three successful meetings on June 23rd, 24th, and 25th, at Elterwater, Ambleside, and Bowness-on-Windermere respectively. Miss Matters was the speaker, and was given a warm reception. Seven new members were obtained, and nine dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold. Number of F.W.S. not yet to hand. The local press gave good reports.

BARROW.—Seven members canvassed the small village of Leece on June 27th, distributing suitable literature. This was new ground, and the idea of an evening meeting on the Green later on seemed to find favour. All the members were busy people, and most of them gave up some private pleasure to spend the afternoon on A.S.L. work.

On July 3rd, a municipal election took place in the Hawcoat Ward. The opportunity for distributing literature was seized, and over one thousand leaflets were given away to voters, the more public-spirited among the householders thus having Suffrage brought to their notice. One worker, the enegetic Hon. Secretary of Barrow Society, gave up her holiday and a day's golf to stand at the gates of the polling station, but felt she was well rewarded by the interest with which this form of propaganda was received. It was observed that from mid-day to 8 p.m. only three leaflets were thrown down, and scarcely more refused, while not a single one was seen lying about anywhere near the station. Ten F.W.S. cards were signed.

On Saturday, July 4th, two members have distributed leaflets on Biggar Bank.

MORECAMBE.—The Morecambe Society can do little work as a whole in the summer, but quiet work is being done by individuals. Some of our members have sold THE COMMON CAUSE, or given it, and have obtained new subscribers. We have secured the necessary permission for Suffrage speakers, collections, and paper-selling on the sands, also police protection. The holiday crowds are very orderly, but precautions have been taken so that any offender will be removed without ceremony from our meetings. Mrs. Sleigh, of Silverdale, spoke on Saturday, June 27th, and it is hoped that Mrs. Croft Helme (Lancaster) and Mrs. Barton (Carnforth) will be among future speakers.

SILVERDALE has formed a small A.S.L. band, with Mrs. Sleigh as group leader.

WORKINGTON.—Miss Florence Atkinson is group leader for the A.S.L., and arrangements have been made to visit seven villages, members undertaking to work the smaller places in twos, and to join forces for the larger ones.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

CROYDON has been educating villagers by outdoor meetings. Men who came to disturb militant speeches were disappointed.

EASTBOURNE.—Mr. Allen spoke at the monthly At Home at the Suffrage Rooms, on May 15th, on "A Man's View of Women's Suffrage." On May 25th Miss Varrell addressed "Friends" there. On June 3rd, Mrs. Rackham spoke there on the Lightning Campaign, Mrs. Rowland Hunt presiding. On June 10th Mrs. Peacey gave an American tea for Federation funds.

EPSOM.—Mrs. Savory addressed a large "Sisterhood" meeting on June 10th in the Foresters' Hall, on "The Improvement of Women's and Children's Conditions through the Vote," with Colonial and foreign examples. Miss Ewell sang.

GODALMING.—Mr. Kennedy, of the Men's League, addressed a large meeting on Chiddingfold Green on June 20th, Sir William Chance making an opening speech as chairman. A small section of rowdy men made it difficult to hear Mr. Kennedy, while the majority listened quietly. On the 27th, Miss Cumming, a health visitor, addressed a small meeting on Compton Common, provoking discussion. Gramophone speeches followed.

HASLEMERE.—This district will soon be divided under sub-committees to increase efficiency. The Lightning Campaign will be undertaken the first fortnight in July. A scheme for raising money next autumn is under consideration. The membership is 229.

HASTINGS.—The Suffrage Club balcony was filled with onlookers when Mrs. Fawcett came to unveil the memorial tablet to Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell at Rock House, at the end of the Pageant Week, on June 6th. Mrs. Fawcett described that lady's extraordinary difficulties, her splendid courage and perseverance, and noble work. Mrs. Coulson Kernahan applauded Mrs. Fawcett's pioneer efforts for the education of women. She received a bouquet from Suffragists on leaving Queen's Hotel, and some of them saw her off.

NEW FOREST.—The Federation Active Service League campaign began with a driving and cycling tour there on June 8th. Besides much canvassing and several small meetings, good meetings were held at Botley, Swaythling, Cadnam, and Lyndhurst, with a fine finish at Totton, where the whole town attended.

NEWPORT.—In the Friends' Meeting House on June 16th the Chairman, Miss Mercer, read a letter from a paper, signed by Mrs. Fawcett and other prominent Suffragists, denouncing militancy. Miss O'Shea spoke on people's attitude towards militancy, the naturalisation of British women, legislation as affecting women, women's physical strength. Mrs. Kemp deplored the death of a Vice-President, Mrs. Russell Cooke. Two new Vice-Presidents were reported, Mrs. Hay-Newton and Lady Baring.

PORTSMOUTH.—On June 2nd, Miss Ellin lectured on "Married Women's Labour" twice, Miss O'Shea and Mrs. Blake presiding. On June 24th, the Misses O'Shea gave a strawberry tea at Cosham for members and "Friends" for the funds. Weekly outdoor meetings are in progress throughout this summer.

PURLEY.—Mr. Clifford Ewen, of the Men's League, addressed a large audience in Mrs. Bradisford's garden on the 26th. Miss Drummond, of the Actresses' Franchise League, recited; orchestral music was performed; Mr. Playford played the flute, and Miss Hammond sang.

REDHILL AND REIGATE.—On May 27th a jumble sale at the Cecil Hall, Colman Institute, Redhill, realised over £11. Many back numbers of THE COMMON CAUSE were given away. Mrs. Harley addressed nearly a hundred members with their friends at Mrs. Auerbach's Lightning Campaign meeting at Reigate on June 8th, when Miss Bussé recited. Seven members joined, and many copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

ROTHERFIELD.—July 2nd.—A very successful garden meeting was held, by kind invitation of Miss Roll, at Oakdene. Mrs. Ada Nield Chew gave an address which was listened to with great interest by the audience, many of whom were cottagers. Forty-nine "Friends" were enrolled.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Committee gave a very successful tea to working women in the Art Gallery on June 15th, followed by music and recitations. Miss Dutton, the Organiser, gave a bright, homely Suffrage talk, which was thoroughly appreciated, as the running comments showed. The women want to be asked again, which they will be, as also other women. These meetings are on the lines of those held by the Manchester Suffrage Club.

WOKING.—On May 13th, Miss Atkinson addressed a members' meeting and a Women Citizens' Association meeting. On the 27th, Miss Head, of Liverpool, addressed another meeting of the latter. The local Women Citizens' Association number twenty-one members. They met again on June 24th, when another ordinary members' meeting took place also, to arrange an autumn programme.

WORTHING.—June 24th.—An Old English Fair was held by kind permission of Councillor Ellen Chapman in the grounds of The Shrubbery, Broadwater. It was opened with five Lightning Campaign speeches, each lasting five minutes. There were various stalls and competitions, and an entertainment was carried on continuously throughout the afternoon. Maypole and other old English dances were performed, old English ballads sung, and one of the chief features was a performance of Hans Andersen's "Princess and the Swineherd," in which the chief characters were taken by Councillor Ellen Chapman, Mrs. Elborough, and Miss Jensen. An orchestra arranged by Miss Denniss gave selections at intervals. A substantial sum was gained for the funds of the Society, much literature was sold, and some new members gained.

Oxford, Bucks, and Berks.

BERKHAMSTED.—A meeting was held at Farrier's Hall on June 22nd, an eloquent address being given by Mrs. Rackham on the National Union Election Policy, to a small but very appreciative audience.

BERKS (NORTH).—June 18th—Afternoon meeting at Faringdon.—Chair, Mrs. F. J. K. Cross—Speakers, Lady Betty Balfour, Miss Dora Mason, M.A. Lady Betty Balfour spoke on the effect of the women's vote in America. Several questions were asked by Miss Gladys Pott, organiser of the N.L.O.W.S. A resolution in favour of Women's Suffrage was carried by 34 to 16. A good account of the meeting appeared in the *Faringdon Advertiser*. June 23rd.—Afternoon meeting in Didcot for women; a field being kindly lent for the occasion. Chair, Miss Nora Marshall. Speakers, Miss Dora Mason, M.A., and Miss Anson Barraud. Miss Pott and Mrs. Stocks of the N.L.O.W.S. were both present and asked questions. Resolution lost by nine.

June 25th.—Open-air meeting at Didcot in a field kindly lent by Mr. Rich. Chair, Mr. F. J. K. Cross, J.P., C.C. Speakers, Miss Grace Hadow, Miss Dora Mason, M.A., Mr. R. C. Phillimore, L.C.C. (Deptford). There was a large attendance. Mr. H. B. Samuels, N.L.O.W.S., at first held an opposition meeting, but failed to hold his audience, who deserted him for the N.U. speakers. The audience were much interested and the meeting was a satisfactory one in spite of the failure to carry the resolution.

KING'S SUTTON.—On July 7th Mrs. Harley spoke to a large gathering of people who had assembled at Greycourt. The subject of her address was the need of the vote for women, and the need of the nation for the direct influence of women in the affairs of the country. Nine members and two "Friends" were enrolled. Tea was afterwards served.

MAIDENHEAD.—June 22nd.—A meeting was held by kind permission of Miss Duncan at Abbotsleigh. Mrs. Schuster, who took the chair, made a strong and earnest protest against militancy, referring especially to the recent deplorable destruction of Wargrave Church. Mrs. Robie Uniacke addressed the meeting on the Lightning Campaign, explaining its object, and asking each member to endeavour to secure at least one new member during the month. Several new members joined.

Early in June, Miss C. C. Lyon, Section-leader of Active Service League in the Federation, met the local A.S.L. members to discuss the work of the A.S.L. in the neighbourhood to be done at the end of August. It was decided to hold open-air meetings at Littlewick, Pinkney's Green, Cookham, Cookham Dean, and White Waltham, the Local A.S. Leaguers to canvass beforehand and distribute literature.

OXFORD.—June 16th.—Open-air meeting at Islip.—Speakers, Miss Lewis and Miss Gill. Large and attentive audience. June 25th.—Garden meeting at Mrs. Whitley's house—Chair, Mrs. Haverfield—Speaker, Mrs. Hobbs. July 2nd.—Garden meeting for "Friends" given by Miss Burrows—Chair, Mrs. W. M. Geldart—Speaker, Miss Helga Gill. Five members and two F.W.S. enrolled. July 7th—Open-air meeting at Littlemore. Chair, Miss E. Lewis—Speakers, Mrs. R. Hobbs, Miss Helga Gill. Large, interested audience. The ground had been prepared by some of the local Active Service Leaguers.

PANGBOURNE.—The annual meeting was held on June 30th. The attendance was small. Satisfactory financial and general reports were adopted. Mrs. Ramsey (P.L.G., Cambridge), gave a delightful address, and tea concluded the proceedings. Miss Margaret Jones was elected hon. sec. in place of Miss L. C. Jones, who is going abroad.

READING.—On June 17th a meeting of members and "Friends" was held in the garden of Holybrook House, kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McIlroy, and about fifty people listened with interest to Miss Helga Gill, who came from Oxford to speak on how the vote was won and how it is being used in Norway. Miss Margaret Jones explained the Lightning Campaign and Active Service League, and the chair was taken by our vice-President, Miss L. Turquand. The afternoon concluded with a performance of "Broken Down Motors," ably and amusingly acted by Miss Gillender and Mrs. Manners Little. Several new members joined.

On July 8th Mr. and Mrs. Neily for the second time threw open their charming garden for a fête, which promises to be an annual event.

A varied performance took place at intervals during the afternoon, in which many distinguished local amateurs gave their services. Many dogs entered and paraded for the extraordinary dog competition, and a large number of helpers served tea to over 100 people who attended the fête. A short Suffrage speech by Miss M. Jones followed "Broken Down Motors," and Morris dances concluded a festive afternoon. Proceeds, £12 net. Eighteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold.

WOKINGHAM.—Miss Barraud returned to Twyford and Wargrave after the burning of Wargrave Church, and did much good work there in restoring the confidence of the newly-enrolled members and "Friends" in the district. Nine new members and three F.W.S. were enrolled as a result of her work.

A Jumble Sale which was held in Wokingham in June realised nearly £8.

ACTIVE SERVICE LEAGUE.—The Little Kingshill Sub-Committee of the above Society has organised a caravan tour to visit some of the outlying villages in Mid Bucks, as part of the Active Service League campaign. The dates fixed are July 20th to July 25th inclusive. Twelve villages are to be visited. Mrs. Savory has promised to come down from London to speak one day, and other speakers have kindly consented to help.

North and East Riding.

ORGANISER'S REPORT.—Work in Northallerton.—Miss Waring reports that she has spent ten days in Northallerton working up the district, together with Miss Scott. On July 5th Miss Green was "At Home" to the Grammar School staff, and a lively discussion followed the address on Women's Suffrage.

On July 10th there was an open-air meeting at the Cross. Miss Green took the chair and Miss Waring spoke. The audience were most attentive. At the end all the copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and twenty-six "Friends'" cards were signed. From Northallerton Miss Waring and Miss Scott go to

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Thirsk for a week, and then return to Northallerton for a meeting to start a Society on July 20th. Open-air meetings have been arranged at Osmotherley, July 21st, and Bedale, July 22nd.

MIDDLESBROUGH — In connection with the country campaign, a successful meeting was held at Marton-in-Cleveland on Friday, June 12th. Mrs. Levick presided. The speakers were Mrs. Fothergill and Miss Veitch. One member was enrolled.

PICKERING AND DISTRICT.—Miss Violet Harris, the organiser, was here from June 24th to 30th. She paid numerous calls in Pickering, Kirby Moorside, and Thornton-le-Dale, and held two open-air meetings. On June 27th, an open-air meeting was held at Thornton-le-Dale Miss Stès took the chair, and Miss Harris gave an excellent address. Three "Friends'" cards were signed, and twenty-seven copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. The collection was 7s. 6d. On June 29th an open-air meeting was held at Pickering, Mrs. Highfield presiding. The audience showed such interest in Miss Harris' address that they were reluctant for the meeting to close. One member joined, nine "Friends'" cards were signed, and twenty-one copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. After the meeting, Mrs. Highfield (President) invited a party of ladies to tea, and Miss Harris gave an informal talk. The total collection at Pickering amounted to 12s. 1d., and the sum of £1 0s. 7d. has been sent to the N. and E. Riding Federation.

REDCAR.—The annual members' meeting was held at the Small Institute Hall on Wednesday, June 17th. Mr. Perris took the chair, and Miss Winifred Jones, from Middlesbrough, gave a most thoughtful and excellent address on "The Feminist Movement and Women's Suffrage." The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Fothergill, read the annual report, and made the welcome announcement that the Society now numbered 105 members. The finances were satisfactory, as the report of the Hon. Treasurer showed. Miss Harris, head organiser of the Federation, addressed the members briefly. Questions were afterwards put concerning the by-election policy, and answered to the satisfaction of those present. The collection amounted to 10s. 4d.

SCALBY.—The first annual meeting was held on June 9th. Miss Walton (Vice-President) took the chair, in the unavoidable absence of Lady Tancred. The Lightning Campaign and election policy were explained. A donation of £2 was voted to the N. and E. Riding Federation.

YORK.—Active Service League week began on June 8th, and proved a great success. Five villages south of York were chosen, Cawood being the largest. Travelling from York to Cawood the constituencies of five M.P.'s were touched, which added to the interest of the meetings. Different Leaguers joined from York by motor or cycle each evening, and excellent meetings were held at Stillingfleet, Wheldrake, Escrick, and Cawood, the villagers turning out in large numbers. Each day organisation was carried on in the villages, and a motor-car, to which a COMMON CAUSE poster mounted on cardboard was attached, and from which a flag of the National Union colours was flown, soon became well known in the neighbourhood. Several Leaguers made their *début* as open-air speakers. The Chairman and speakers included: Miss Thompson, Miss Gaine, Mdlle. Stès, Mr Sturge, B.A., Mr. Gillman, Mr. Hartley, Mr. Bradley, and Mrs. Meyer, who spoke each night. Thirteen "Friends" of W.S. were enrolled, and copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold out each evening.

On June 30th, an open-air meeting was held in the Groves, when an attentive audience listened to an interesting address from Mrs. Watkin. Miss Ingleby presided. One member and one "Friend" of W.S. were enrolled. Members are greatly indebted to Miss Thornton for the loan of her motor-car throughout Active Service League week, and to Mdlle. Stès who drove it so efficiently. During the month 15½ dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE have been sold through the office. Will members kindly remember that all our meetings (unless arranged too late) are advertised in THE COMMON CAUSE? A garden performance of "How the Vote was Won" is being organised for July 23rd at "Ouse Lea," by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Macdonald. Tickets may be obtained at the office, 10, Museum Street.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in NOT LATER THAN THE MONDAY FIRST POST before the announcement is to be inserted, addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

JULY 17.

East Enfield—St. Augustine's Mission Hall—Meeting for Members and "Friends"—Speaker, Miss Helen Ward—Chair, Mrs. Wood 8.0

Deptford — Broadway — Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss M. Goddard 8.0

Southwark — Corner of Trinity Street and Borough High Street—Miss Gloyn, Miss Walshe, and Miss Green 8.0

JULY 18.

North Hackney—Corner of Amhurst Road and High Street, Stoke Newington—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Paul Campbell, Miss Hammond 7.30

JULY 19.

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Speakers—Miss J. O. Ford, Miss Fawcett, Miss L. Gordon, Miss R. Young 3.30

Streatham—I.L.P. Meeting on the Common—Speaker, Miss Hodge 11.0

JULY 20.

Battersea—Strath Terrace, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Fielden, Miss Fawcett—Chair, Miss Beaumont 8.15

East St. Pancras—Corner of Castle Road and Kentish Town Road—Open-air Meeting—Miss Gloyn, Miss Rinder 8.0

North Kensington—Vienna Café, Notting Hill Gate—At Home to meet the Lightning Campaign new members 4.0—6.0

West St. Pancras—Liberal Club, 65, Chalk Farm Road—Speaker, Mrs. Ford Smith 8.30

JULY 21.

Chiswick and Bedford Park—Bank Common—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Rinder

Richmond—Heron Court—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Rackham, Miss Walshe, Miss J. Stevens 7.35

Southwark—Corner of Liverpool Street and Walworth Road—Open-air Meeting—Miss Ruth Young, Miss Fyffe 8.0

JULY 22.

Holborn—Corner of High Street, Bloomsbury, and Charing Cross Road—Open-air Meeting—Miss Fawcett, Miss H. D. Cockle 8.0

Paddington—50, Porchester Terrace—Garden Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Arthur Savory—Chair, Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves 4.30

JULY 23.

Barnes—Opposite Sun Inn—Open-air Meeting—Miss Margaret Robertson 8.0

East Islington—Corner of Riversdale Road and Blackstaff Road — Open-air Meeting — Miss Rinder, Mr. A. W. Watts 8.0

Rotherhithe—All Saints' Vicarage, Lower Road—Speaker, Miss Hay Cooper—Chair, the Ven. C. E. Escreet 3.15

JULY 24.

Southwark—Corner of St. George's Circus and Borough Road—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mr. and Mrs. Harford Worlock

Walthamstow—Open-air Meeting—Miss Fielden 8.0

The Provinces.

JULY 17.

Caerphilly — The Towyn — Speakers, Mrs. Whalley, Miss Ashton-Jones—Chair, the Rev. E. Pryce-Evans 8.0

Gainford—Open-air Meeting (Active Service League)—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss E. G. Westwood 7.0

High Coniscliffe—Open-air Meeting (Active Service League)—Miss Armstrong, Miss A E. Westwood 7.0

New Seaham—E.F.F. Meeting—Miss Sheard 7.0

Oundle—Market Place—Miss Blackstone 7.30

Oxford—The Judge's Lodgings—At Home—Hostesses, the Misses Price—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters 8.0—10.0

Severn Stoke—Open-air Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser 7.45

Watford—21, Monmouth Road—Garden Meeting — Hostess, Mrs. Wright — Speaker, Mrs. Harley—Chair, Mrs. Robinson 4.0

JULY 18.

Cardiff—Opposite Gladstone Road Schools—Speaker, Mrs. Whalley—Chair, Mr. Scholefield 8.0

Hertford—St. Andrew's House (by kind permission of Miss Cholmeley)—Speaker, Mr. R. Cholmeley—Sale of cakes, sweets, &c. 3.30

Huddersfield—Honly House—Annual Garden Party—Hostess, Miss Siddon—Speaker, Frau Rosika Schwimmer (of Budapest) 3.0

North Malvern—Parish Hall—Speaker, Miss Helen Frazer—Chair, Mr. Paget Norbury 8.0

Redhill—Ladbroke Road—Open-air Meeting of Redhill Branch, I.L.P.—Speaker, Miss N. O'Shea 8.0

Reigate—101, Lesbourne Road (by kind permission of Mrs. Faulkener)—Speaker, Miss N. O'Shea—Chair, Mrs. Buckland 3.30

Sevenoaks—Open-air Meeting—Miss P. Fawcett 9.0

Tunbridge Wells — On the Common — Miss Fielden 6.30

Waterford—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Arnold Overton—Chair, the Rev. H. R. Humphreys

Whittlesea—Portland House — Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham 3.30

JULY 19.

Blyth—Open-air Meeting — Miss Armstrong, Mrs. G. D. Biltcliffe 7.0

Redhill—I.L.P., Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss N. O'Shea 8.0

JULY 20.

Bachworth—Open-air Meeting—Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Ella Westwood 7.0

Bebside—Open-air Meeting—Miss Armstrong, Miss Edie Westwood 7.0

Birmingham—Alum Rock—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Streeter and Mrs. Ring 8.0

Bristol — On Durdham Downs — Miss Helen Frazer and others 7.30

Cuckfield—Hatchlands (by kind permission of Miss Payne), or, if wet, in the Queen's Hall, Cuckfield—Annual Meeting for Members and Friends—Speakers, Mrs. Fawcett, LL.D—Chair, the Lady Robert Cecil 3.15

Heywood—Market Ground—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Müter Wilson—Chair, the Rev. E. Glendy 8.0

Leeds—Belgrave Central Hall—Miss Muriel Matters on "The Christian Call for Women's Enfranchisement"—Chair, the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, D.D. 5.30

Leicester—Market Place—Speakers, Miss Grace Hadow, Miss Blackstone, Miss Ruth Giles—Chair, Councillor Sydney Grimson 8.30

Manchester—Tibb Street Corner — Open-air Meeting—Miss Emily Cox, M.A., and Miss Hale 8.0

Northallerton—West House Schoolroom—Meeting to start Society—Speaker, Miss Waring 8.0

North Sands—Speakers, Miss Foxley, M.A., Miss Ashton-Jones—Chair, His Worship the Mayor 3.0

Tunbridge Wells—On the Common, Miss Palmer 3.0

Rusthall Common, Miss Palmer 6.30

Wallasey and Wirral—New Brighton Sands—Active Service League Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Mrs. Shelston-Watkins 8.0

JULY 21.

Bradford—Hanson School Playground, Barkerend Road (if wet, meeting in the School)—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters—Chair, Mr. W. L. Leach 7.30

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Bristol—Oakhurst, Leigh Woods—Garden Party—Hostess, Mrs. Burrow Hills—Speakers, Miss Helen Fraser, the Rev. C. P. Wilson 3.30—6.30
Burradon—Open-air Meeting—Miss Armstrong, Miss Ella Westwood 7.0
Dudley—Open-air Meeting—Miss Gordon, Miss Edie Westwood 7.0
Cambridge—Market Place—Miss Muriel Matters 8.0
North Sands—Speakers, Miss Foxley, M.A., Miss Ashton-Jones—Chair, Mr. Egerton Allen 11.0
Osmotherley—At the Village Cross—Open-air Meeting—Miss Scott, Miss Waring 7.30
Redditch — Garden Meeting — Hostess, Mrs. Banks — Speaker, Mrs. Stein (Women's Co-operative Guild, Birmingham)—Chair, Mrs. H. Dixon
Southborough—On the Common—Miss Palmer 6.30
Wallasey and Wirral—New Brighton Sands—Active Service League Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Mrs. G. A. Stallybrass 8.0

JULY 22.

Bedale—At the Cross—Open-air Meeting—Miss Scott, Miss Waring 8.0
Bournemouth—Open-air Meeting 8.0
Bristol—On Durdham Downs—Miss Helen Fraser, and others 7.30
Easington Colliery—Open-air Meeting — Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Armstrong
Horden—Open-air Meeting—Miss Ella Westwood, Miss Edie Westwood 7.0
Manchester—Corner of York Street and City Road—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Müter Wilson 8.0
Newport, I.W. — Birchfield House — Garden Meeting—Speakers, Lady Baring, the Rev. Dr. Tugwell, and others 4.30
North Sands—Miss Foxley, M.A., Miss Ashton-Jones 11.0
Wallasey and Wirral—New Brighton Sands—Active Service League Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, the Rev. Donald Fraser 8.0

JULY 23.

Barnsley—Fair Field House — Hostess, Miss Celia Wray—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters 3.0—5.30
May Day Green—Open-air Meeting — Miss Muriel Matters 7.30
Bristol—Cedar Hall, Frenchay—Garden Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Randall Vickers—Speakers, Miss Helen Frazer, Mrs. Wathen 4.0
Guildford—Henley Park, Normandy (by kind permission of Sir Owen and Lady Roberts)—Speaker, Mrs. Cowmeadow 3.0
Lampeter — Memorial Hall — Mrs. Coombe Tennant on "Why Law-abiding Women want the Vote"
Manchester — Victoria Park Gate (opposite Whitworth Park) — Open-air Meeting — Mrs. Atack, Miss Emily Cox, M.A., the Rev. W. Whitaker 8.0
Alexandra Park Gates—Open-air Meeting—Miss Thirza Potts, M.A., Mrs. Norbury, Mr. Crane 8.0
Didsbury—Open-air Meeting 8.0
Ancoats Suffrage Club—396, Oldham Road—Speaker, Mr. Crane 8.0
North Sands—Speakers, Miss Foxley, M.A., Miss Ashton-Jones—Chair, the Rev. H. Phillips 11.0
Shotton — Open-air Meeting — Miss C. M. Gordon, Miss Ella Westwood 7.0
Stanstead Abbots—The Mill House (by kind permission of Mrs. Pearce)—Garden Meeting—Sale of cakes, sweets, &c.
Wallasey and Wirral—New Brighton Sands—Active Service League Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Mr. Sidney Roberts 8.0
Wide Open—Open-air Meeting—Miss Edie Westwood, Miss Armstrong 7.0
York—"Ouse Lea" (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Macdonald)—Garden Dramatic Entertainment, "How the Vote was Won," by Acomb Daisy, Girls' Guild—Admission, 1s. and 6d. 6.0

JULY 24.

Bristol—At the Horse-fair—Dinner-hour Meeting—Miss Helen Fraser and others
Guildford—The Green, Ripley—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Cowmeadow 7.30
North Sands—Miss Foxley, M.A., Miss Ashton-Jones. 11.0
Woodley—Smithy Green—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Mr. Clement Bundrock

Scotland.

JULY 17.

Kirkwall—"Daisybank"—Drawing-room Meeting—Speaker, Miss Bury
Millerhill (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting (Active Service League)—Mrs. Aldersley, Mr. Johnston 7.30
Uphall—Active Service League—Mr. Johnstone and others Evening

JULY 18.

Edinburgh, South—Active Service League—Speakers, Mrs. Aldersley, Mr. Johnston—Chair, Miss Daisy Mackay 3.0

JULY 19.

Fraserburgh—On the Links—Speaker, Miss E. M. C. Foggo—Chair, Mr. Turrell 3.0
Speaker, Miss E. M. C. Foggo—Chair, Mr. Garrett 7.0

JULY 20.

Leith (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting 8.0

JULY 21.

Leith (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Aldersley 8.0
Uphall (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting (Active Service League)—Mrs. Aldersley 8.0

JULY 22.

Mid-Calder (Edinburgh Society) — Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Aldersley, Miss Low 7.30

JULY 23.

Leith (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Aldersley 8.0

JULY 24.

Leith (Edinburgh Society)—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Aldersley 8.0

Items of Interest.

Savin Homes.

They are saving homes down Brixton way. I want to tell how they manage it, writes a representative of *The Daily Citizen*.

A wan woman with a hunted look came to the offices of the London and Provincial Vehicle Workers' Union Benevolent Branch at 30, Brixton Road. Ever since the London Building lockout laid its blighting hand on her and hers she has been hunted from one extremity to another in vain endeavour to make both ends meet. The husband is a labourer, and the funds of the Labourers' Unions were well-nigh exhausted. The street collection just sufficed to give to such as she half-a-dozen shillings in the week. Little enough, but on it she had fought to live as only the brave poor will, until pathos turned to tragedy.

Assistance should be sent to Mr. T. A. Mendez, secretary, South London Women and Children Fund, 30, Brixton-road, S.W.

Reception to I.W.S.A. at the International Women's Franchise Club.

At the reception given by the International Women's Franchise Club to members of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance Conference, most of the principal English Suffrage organisations, including the various religious and party leagues, were represented, and there were also present a number of American and foreign friends. Lord Lytton, in welcoming the guests, spoke of the amazing progress of the world-wide Suffrage movement, and a splendid jubilation was the keynote both to his speech and that of Sir John Cockburn. They congratulated the leaders of the world's movement on the victories already won, and on the imminence of the final triumph. Miss Furuhjelm, M.P., gave an interesting account of the advance of women in Finland. The men, she said, had been sympathetic rather than helpful, and it had been necessary to organise the women voters in separate bodies in order to train them politically. The supremacy of Russia and the inadequate representation of Finland in the Duma very much hampered the activities of the Finnish Parliament, but it was recognised that the presence of the twenty-one women members in a Parliament of 200 members gave a greater prominence to women's questions than had been possible before, and that the advice and experience of women were invaluable in dealing with social questions. Members of the various Suffrage Societies present gave some account of the policy and methods of their respective organisations, the speaker for the N.U.W.S.S. being Miss Margaret Robertson, whose exposition of N.U. work aroused great interest among the International guests. Miss Robertson touched on the democratic "net work" spread over the country, enabling great national efforts to be arranged, such as the Pilgrimage of last year, and she concluded with an account in some detail of the successes of the Election Fighting Policy of the Union.

Woman Advance Agent.

Miss Cecile Barclay, a member of the Actresses' Franchise League, has made a bold and wise new departure in appointing Miss C. E. Potter as Advance Agent for the Cecile Barclay and Rupert Lister Theatrical Co., which is touring "The Attack" this autumn. Miss Barclay is an enthusiastic Suffragist, and in spite of her heavy professional engagements she has found time, as many of our readers are aware, to speak and even to give delightful "At Homes" for the cause, and she informs us that she is again willing to place her services at the disposal of the secretaries of the Societies in the numerous towns she is to visit this year, and which include among many others such important centres as Whitby, Scarborough, Rhyll, Grimsby, Buxton, Portsmouth, Southampton, and Cardiff.

Ellen Walshe's Clever Play.

Of the nine items (five of them one act plays) that comprised the Leverton Players' Programme on the 14th inst., only one can be said to have laid claim to any originality, and, indeed, to any sense of the requirements of the stage whatever. This one was Ellen Walshe's thrilling episode entitled "What of the Child"

The scene is a butcher's shop, 8 a.m. on a Monday morning. The staff enters, but finds the store room bare and concludes that the chief has overslept himself and has not been to market. The door leading to the staircase is bolted on the inside, which is unusual. There is a faint wailing within, as of a lonely child. One of the assistants gossips about the employer's wife, who has been receiving attentions from a foreigner. There is an intuitive apprehension of something amiss.

The young cashier cannot get to the desk because the door leading to it is also bolted from the inside. Undoubtedly something unusual has happened, but surmise cannot determine what the particular thing is. The sense of impending tragedy deepens until one young butcher breaks in the door and finds the child cold and wailing on the stairs outside the parents' room. Even then none dare go further. A policeman is summoned, but he does not share the general fear until a scream from above rouses his interest. Then the truth comes to light. The butcher has broken in the bedroom door, and has found two corpses; jealously has obviously caused the husband to take his wife's life and his own.

The baby is soothed in the young cashier's arms. "Horrible—horrible" moans the young girl, "but"—and here is the pivotal idea of the play—"but what of the child?"

The curtain falls on this clarion call, which epitomises the ethical idea and lifts the piece on to a high plane. The authoress deserves heartiest congratulations on her work, and she was fortunate in securing Winifred Mayo, an actress of especial sensibility, for the part of the girl cashier.

Need for Trained Nurses.

The Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses have drawn up a petition to the Prime Minister craving facilities for the passage this session of the Nurses Registration Bill. It is pointed out that the chief object of the measure is to prevent partly trained women from representing themselves as fully trained; also that there may shortly be a dearth of efficient nurses unless the status of the skilled nurse is safeguarded, and women of better education induced to take it up.

Ulster Women.

Lady Londonderry announces the following efficient women ready for active service in Ulster. Of those who trained under St. John's Ambulance regulations from October, 1913, to May, 1914, there were 141 first-aid classes and sixty-four home nursing classes. Persons instructed in first aid 4,881, certificates of proficiency granted to 3,129. Instructed in home nursing 1,916, of whom 1,566 granted certificates. Total certificates for the eight months, 4,695. Of hospitals in Ulster, 220; doctors, 138; trained nurses, 410; and voluntary aid detachments, near a total of 3,520.

To a corps of Lady Signallers at Craigavon Sir E. Carson has "flagged" this message: "Your leader greatly appreciates your loyalty and devotion, and realises that the women of Ulster are doing much to secure victory."

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SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A PIANO, PLEASE! For the sake of the Cause. Our Working Woman's Suffrage Club opens September.—Trounson, Hon. Secretary, 24, Onslow-mansions, Richmond, Surrey.

MISS NELLIE HORNE, Lecturer on Voice Production. Conductor of Speakers' Classes, Summer Suffrage Schools (Malvern 1912, St. Andrews 1913), Suffrage Societies' Classes (Manchester, Birkenhead, &c.). Elocution in all its branches. Classes or private tuition.—Prince's Chambers, John Dalton-st., Manchester

SUFFRAGE SUMMER SCHOOL, University Hall, St. Andrews, Scotland.—11th August to 8th September, 35s. a week. Board, lodging, and tuition. Lecturers: Mrs. Rackham, Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser, Mrs. Harley, Misses C. Macmillan, M.A., B.Sc., and I. O. Ford (members of the N.U. Executive); Miss Lumsden, LL.D., Miss S. E. S. Mair, Dr. Elsie Inglis, Misses Sheepshanks, Roper, Gore-Booth, N. Horne, Rinder; Mrs. Streeter, and others.—Apply to Miss Alice Crompton, M.A., 2, St. Andrew-sq., Edinburgh.

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I approve of the object and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. I am not a Member of a Society that adopts a policy of violence, and I do not support Militant tactics. I desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district, and to receive "The Common Cause."

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